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(The national voice of Indo-Canadians)

Joe Clark meets Desai

Joe Clark, leader of the Opposition in Canada, who was on a two-days visit to India, called on Prime Minister Morarji Desai in New Delhi on January 11.

During the 45-minute meeting, Prime Minister Desai explained India's position on the question of nuclear safeguard arrangements, as also on the Non-Proliferation Treaty and India's policy on developing and utilising nuclear technology only for peaceful purposes. Mr. Desai pointed out to Mr. Clark that India has unilaterally renounced nuclear weapons and would not accept any safeguard arrangements which are discriminatory.

On his part, Mr. Clark expressed the view that Canada should engage in greater economic and technical cooperation with India.

Both Mr. Desai and Mr. Clark felt that the 1974 event - India's nuclear experiment at Pokharan - should be kept behind and that both countries should look forward to an era of greater cooperation in various fields.

Mr. Clark had talks with the External Affairs Minister, A.B. Vajpayee, for about 75 minutes during which he said that industrial progress in India has been impressive and has created opportunities of expanding trade exchanges between India and Canada.

Mr. Vajpayee and Mr. Clark also exchanged views on North-South dialogue. Mr. Vajpayee related the specific problems of the dialogue like commodity fund, prices of raw materials, transfer of technology and transfer of resources and explained India's policy on these issues.

Mr. Clark pointed out that there was a broad understanding in Canada on these issues. He said that he had come to India to understand in what manner Canada could play a role in resolving the problems.

Mr. Clark spoke about bilateral cooperation and expressed his keen interest in developing bilateral cooperation and Indo-Canadian cooperation in third countries.

Film Actress Shabana Azmi, who made her debut in "Junoon" [specially selected for the inaugural show] offers a light to the President, Sanjiva Reddy to mark the inauguration of the 7th International Film Festival in New Delhi on January 3.

Speedy clearance at customs

By Our Correspondent

New Delhi: International passengers are being speedily cleared at the customs at the major national airports in India under a new scheme envisaged by the Minister of State for Finance, Satish Aggarwal, from his experience at various international airports.

Under the new scheme introduced at Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and Trivandrum passengers are cleared with the least checks based on trust. The objective is to ensure that the passengers are not detained at the customs for not more than 30 minutes as against up to 10 hours being taken at present.

If a passenger has nothing to declare he can walk out through the green channel nonchalantly. Even at the red channel the customs officers will, as far as possible, rely on the list produced by the passenger for charging customs duty.

The increase in the baggage allowance from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1000 since May 78 and the additional channels for clearance have already facilitated speedy clearance.

But the authorities warn of surprise checks and stringent punishments for those found violating the custom rules. Such passengers might even face prosecution besides seizure of the goods.

Women and children travelling alone are cleared through separate channels. Special channels are also provided for foreign tourists for speedy clearance. The foreign tourists have constantly been complaining of unnecessary delays at the customs desks.

Mr. Aggarwal said that baggage could not be considered as a source of income. While making the relaxations on the one side to make things easier for the passenger, the intelligence machinery has been strengthened to curb malpractices. Close circuit television system has been introduced in the customs halls to watch the incoming passengers.

Flights at congested airports like Bombay are being staggered to reduce pressure on the customs counters. More passenger facilities at such airports are not feasible for want of space.

At present 1.5 million passengers arrive in India every year, half of which land at Bombay.

ICS MEN STILL IN SERVICE

New Delhi (IBS) Jan. 11 - Minister of State for Home S.D. Patil informed the Lok Sabha that only one member of the Indian Civil Service (ICS), a relic of British days, is now in service.

The last one is due to retire on March 31, 1980.

Actor migrates

New Delhi (IBS) - Jan. 15 - David Abraham, character actor, and sports official, migrated to Canada to join his relatives who had gone to that country earlier.

David, who completed his acting commitments earlier in the year, was delayed in his departure by migration formalities including the one about seeking employment in Canada, although he is well past the working age limit.

In an interview, David said that he would be happy to rush back to India if anyone of his three favourite directors - Raj Kapoor, H. Mukherjee and Basu Chatterjee - had a suitable role for him.

865 million Indians

New Delhi - India's population can be stabilised at 865 million in the year 2001 AD, according to a computer study.

The study reveals that raising the marriage age will have only a marginal effect in reducing the population, and that a more equitable distribution of income among people would actually increase the population, instead of decreasing it.

The first system of dynamics study on population growth has been done by two experts, Methiram K. Patil, and P.S. Jayshanlal, using the computer at the Indian Institute of Technology in Madras.

The computer study, which will be useful to decision-makers, said that the goal of zero-population-growth [ZPG] could be reached in 32 years.

Canadian Minister in India

India and Canada have decided to set up joint commissions for expansion of trade between the two countries. The agreement was reached in New Delhi on January 9 following talks between Commerce Minister Mohan Dharia and A.C. Abbott, Minister of National Revenue and Minister of State for Small Business, Canada.

Mr. Dharia said the agreement would go a long way to develop economic relations between the two countries and trade delegations would exchange visits. Mr. Abbott said his country recognised the need for more trade with India and that he was very much impressed with the developments in Indian economy.

During their talks, the two sides expressed the need for strengthening their cooperation in the field of industrial collaboration including setting up of joint ventures in third countries.

Mr. Abbott called on Defence Minister Jagjivan Ram on January 9. Mr. Abott was accompanied by some senior members of the Canadian industrial delegation which was on a visit to India. The meeting was exploratory in nature and concerned the possibility of cooperation between Canada and India in the field of aeronautical development.

Taj safe

New Delhi, Jan. 12 [UNI] - There is no threat to the Taj Mahal from the Mathura Oil Refinery, the Chief Designer of the Refinery said.

D.E. Orlov, Soviet Petrochemical Expert who designed the Refinery located 77 km off Taj Mahal, said today it had been determined that anything located beyond 25 km from the Refinery would not be affected by the polluting gases. He said the controversy over the damage feared to the Taj because of the location of the Refinery was "unfounded".

India's political jigsaw

A Commentary

Strange things are happening in India today. Former Home Minister Charan Singh, the strong man who wanted Mrs Gandhi's head until a few days back, is gratefully accepting bouquets from her now on his birthday (December 23).

Morarji Desai, traditionally averse to giving the impression that the Janata Government was persecuting the former Prime Minister, has turned a hawk.

Mrs. Gandhi waited in Parliament House to be taken to jail with a schoolgirl's song on her lips.

An Indian Airlines Plane was hijacked with the aid of a toy pistol and a cricket ball.

The former Union Home Minister's statement in Parliament on his "resignation", six months after the event, quoted British constitutional authorities to justify his extraordinary statement charging his Cabinet colleagues with "importance".

Charan Singh has firmly planted his flag of revolt and is testing his strength against Desai's. The Prime Minister has buttressed his defences by finding support in the rank and file of the Janata Parliamentary Party for a hard line on Mrs. Gandhi. And the former Prime Minister has proved that she had not lost her capacity to influence events.

Desai's espousal of Mrs. Gandhi's expulsion and brief jail term was a mistake. A privilege issue in Parliament hardly justifies sending a former Prime Minister to jail when more serious charges are pending against her in courts. But having taken the plunge, no doubt guided opinion in his parliamentary party, Morarji Desai has discovered that he had reaped a rich harvest. He has never been as justly cheered in Parliament as during his speech on the privilege motion while Mrs. Gandhi sat nervously twirling a pencil.

JAIL IMPACT

The impact of Mrs. Gandhi's brief sojourn in jail has not been as electrifying as her supporters had hoped. The leaders of the Indira Congress tried their best to whip up frenzy, which resulted in arson, looting and many deaths, but the sense of shock has been missing. For many in North India there was poetic justice in Mrs. Gandhi serving a symbolic sentence in a jail where she had sent thousands on trumped-up charges or no charge at all during her Emergency.

Three leaders, including Mrs. Gandhi, are now playing the populist game. Although Desai worsted both Mrs. Gandhi and Charan Singh in recent debates in Parliament, his cup of problems is full to the brim.

Charan Singh knows that he does not have the strength to topple the Desai Government, but he will continue building up his own image and seeking the end of Desai's reign.

But Desai's most serious problem concerns his other colleagues. The reported ministerial revolt in the cabinet was blown out of all proportion, but it is true that many of the Prime Minister's colleagues are dispirited, seeing as they do Janata's continuing decline.

The two solutions are being privately discussed in a mood of resignation — (a) a change in leadership, and (b) a change in Desai's mode of governing. The first course raises a host of difficulties. Who will replace him? As for the second course, few of the Janata leaders believe that Desai can change.

The disillusionment with the Janata leadership has now spread to the Jana Sangha group. Although the Jana Sangha is continuing to support Desai because it does not see any immediate alternative to him, its leaders are making no secret of their anguish over the trend in Janata affairs. In view of this group's crucial relevance to Desai's survival, the warning is clear enough.

The resignation threat of Information Minister L.K. Advani (formerly Jana Sangh President) has to be seen in this light.

Million tourists target

New Delhi (IBS) — An all-out effort will be made in 1979 by the public and private sectors in the tourism industry to reach the target of one million tourists during the year.

According to hoteliers in both sectors, a massive programme is being undertaken by the ITDC and some private hoteliers to increase the hotel accommodation to meet the tourist traffic.

Purshottam Kaushik, Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism, has indicated that no permission is required for setting up a Janata Hotel in the private sector. But construction of such hotels should conform to the guidelines issued by the government if these hotels wanted to be in the approved list of the Central department of tourism.

FREE FOR NEW IMMIGRANTS

In order to help the recent immigrants to settle down with minimum discomfort, The Canadian India Times has decided to send the paper free for three months to all landed immigrants who have stayed in Canada or USA FOR ONLY LESS THAN TWO MONTHS. We expect to publish several articles under news items that will be of special interest to new immigrants.

Therefore if you are a recent arrival in North America on an immigrant visa fill in the following coupon and send it to us.

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ADDRESS..... CITY.....

DATE OF ARRIVAL.....

COUNTRY FROM WHICH CAME.....

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND.....

Sanjay's parellal regime

New Delhi, Jan. 15 [UNI] Sanjay Gandhi was running a parallel Government during the emergency at least as far as Uttar Pradesh was concerned, D.M. Mishra the former district Magistrate of Bulandshahr and Chief executive officer of the Noida Industrial Project said.

Deposing before the Gupta Commission, he said he was himself summoned to the Prime Ministers House several times to discuss various Uttar Pradesh Projects with Sanjay Gandhi. He had to go there as the then Chief Minister, Narain Dutt Tewari had specifically asked him to do so.

Mr. Gandhi had told him that the development of the Noida [New Okhla Industrial Development Authority] on the Uttar Pradesh-Delhi border was slow and that more road-rollers should be brought. Mr. Tewari has clarified that these had to be Maruti road-rollers made by Mr. Gandhi's Maruti Heavy Vehicles Private Limited.

Mr. Mishra, who is now a deputy secretary in the Home Ministry, said that Mr. Gandhi had also made an aerial survey of Noida by a helicopter.

Poverty line

New Delhi (IBS) Jan. 15 Government has tabulated the poverty line at Rs. 61.80 a month in the rural areas and Rs. 71.30 in the urban areas at 1976-77 prices, Prime Minister Morarji Desai informed the Rajya Sabha.

Desai said that the criterion adopted for determining the poverty line in the draft 1978-83 Plan was based on the nutritional norm of 2,400 calories per person per day in the rural areas and 2,100 calories in the urban areas.

He said that statewise estimates had not been prepared to determine the percentage of population below the poverty line.

Indira loses facilities

New Delhi, Jan. 15 (UNI) - Mrs Indira Gandhi has lost a number of concessions and facilities following expulsion from the membership of the Lok Sabha.

These benefits were available to her only for a brief spell of about 40 days after her election victory in Chikmaglur. She was being charged Rs. 2824.60 a month from May 15, 1977, for 12 Willingdon Crescent which was allotted to her on "special recommendation" following her defeat at Rae Bareli. When she was elected last month the works and housing ministry regularised the allotment of this house in her name from November eight on payment of a licence fee of Rs. 330.00 per month. The rent reverts to the old figure from December 19 — the day she ceased to be a Lok Sabha member.

As a member of the Lok Sabha, she enjoyed among other things free medical aid, free railway travel and 15,000 free telephone calls a year from two telephone connections. She will have to foot the bills herself for these services.

Meanwhile, C.M. Stephen leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha has, in a letter to the Lok Sabha Secretary, questioned the validity of the Government Gazette notification saying "Mrs. Indira Nehru Gandhi has ceased to be a member of the Lok Sabha."

A Commentary

Students go hayware

New Delhi. An official report earlier in 1978 showed a sharp rise in student unrest - often a euphemism for plain lawlessness - since the end of the Emergency, and observed that it was possibly due to "pent-up grievances... being ventilated with the restoration of democratic rights".

Many in India regard this explanation as facile and dangerous. There may well have been a spontaneous assertion of demands after the lifting of the Emergency. There were legitimate protests against wrongs done during more than 18 months of arbitary official action and general repression; with the restoration of freedom by the Janata Government, a demonstrative rejection of harsh and externally enforced discipline was also perhaps understandable.

But, if a reaction against the rigours of the Emergency were the only or the main explanation, indiscipline would not have continued and steadily increased. The official report showed that, as against 7,520 "incidents" in 1977 there were 5,838 in the first eight months of this year, and that the violent ones were 1,146 and 1,050 respectively. Many more incidents, most of them violent, have occurred since; there has, in fact, been an orgy of student violence in recent weeks.

The truth is that there has been a rapid rise in the incidence of lawless conduct by students. Several campuses continue to be disturbed; not infrequently, students go on the rampage also in the streets and other public places. Not only the educational system but also public life is thus threatened. No Government can, or should, tolerate this.

Sometimes students do have legitimate grievances; there may also be situations in which they are driven to desperate ways to secure redress. But those who act like hoodlums are seldom themselves the helpless victims of injustice; most of them seem to have come - or rather led - to believe that, as students, they are privileged to do so. This would be apparent from the pattern of student behaviour in States, like Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, where clashes with educational authorities, the police and the public servants are most frequent.

At many places, students have gone on the rampage when prevented from cheating at examinations or required to sit for them on scheduled dates; sometimes, they have turned violent even when asked to pay for cinema tickets or for travel by public transport.

LEGITIMATE GROUSE

Admittedly, there are also more serious causes of student unrest, such as management and worse in educational administration and general socio-economic uncertainty. Tensions will remain so long as there is not much evidence of a determined and wide-ranging effort to reduce the scope for complaint.

Campus politics is seldom concerned with the problems the majority of students faces. Party politics introduced from outside is even less relevant to their interests.

Educationists feel that the most important and pressing need is clear demonstration by both educational and administrative authorities of their resolve to act firmly and unfailingly against open defiance on discipline and law.

This will not be undemocratic; indeed it is a condition for the survival of democracy.

Indian scientist well adjusted

Hyderabad, Jan. 13 (UNI) - The Indian scientist is intelectually superior to the average Indian, emotionally more stable and mature has a clear perception of reality and he is "conforming both in his thinking and behaviour, according to professor Sri Chandra who delivered the presidential address in the section of psychology and educational science at the 66th Session of the Indian science Congress here today.

He said these findings were revealed in a study conducted by him. It was also found that the Indian scientist seemed to be better adjusted to his social environment than his western counterpart, he said.

In the area of emotionality, the Indian scientist did not exhibit any marked degree of egocentric and impulsive affectivity in contrast to the western scientist.

On the work climate, the scientists feel that their job matches their equipment and training and it holds out better prospects for them. A majority of them say that there is need for greater autonomy in research organisations. The study also reveals that scientists alleged that there is too much interference by the Government.

Invitation to Ghaffar Khan

New Delhi (IBS) - Jan. 15 - External Affairs Minister, A.B. Vajpayee promised to take immediate steps for inviting Badshah Khan to India for medical treatment.

He told the Lok Sabha: "It is not only our national duty but national dharma to look after the health of Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan who had been a valiant freedom fighter and an architect of India's independence. But in this matter we require the cooperation of the Governments of Afghanistan and Pakistan. I hope this cooperation will be forthcoming."

Earlier, Samar Guha read out extracts from letters written by Badshah Khan to some Indian friends that he would like to come here for treatment. Guha said the matter should not be further delayed.

Vajpayee said during his recent visit to Kabul he had told the Foreign Minister of Afghanistan that India was prepared to undertake responsibility for Badshah Khan's medical treatment either in Kabul itself by sending some doctors from here or bring him to New Delhi treatment. He said that the matter would be pursued vigorously.

ASSEMBLY JAILS 5

Chandigarh, Jan. 13 (UNI) - Haryana State Assembly today jailed till the prorogation of the House five youngmen who had shouted slogans from the visitors' gallery.

Earlier, the speaker, Ram Sing, adjourned the House several times for brief periods and ultimately had the gallery cleared of visitors because of continued slogan shouting by youths.

Mrs.Gandhi Cha

Mrs. Gandhi's purpose in wooing Charan Singh, her one-time arch foe, is transparent. It is in her interest to exacerbate tensions in Janata and try to detach his group from it.

During his significant recent meeting with Charan Singh, Karnataka Chief Minister Devraj Urs is reported to have propounded the thesis that a combination of the Charan Singh group with Congress (I)'s hold in the South and Chief Minister Sharad Pawar's support in Maharashtra would prove unbeatable.

Charan Singh group's enthusiasm for punishing Mrs. Gandhi

Tax on migr

Ahmedabad, Jan. 15 (UNI) - Justice P.N. Bhagwati of the Supreme Court has suggested imposition of a tax on educated Indians migrating to foreign countries.

"The brain drain tax" was necessary for a developing country like India, which required educated personnel for its development, Justice Bhagwati said.

A heavy dose of tax might prevent educated people from settling abroad, he added.

Mr. Bhagwati was speaking here at a two-day symposium on the

Chopra

New Delhi, Jan. 15 (UNI) - Navy Captain M.M. Chopra deposed before Additional Sessions Judge M.K. Chawla that he was unable to say how his children Geeta and Sanjay were murdered.

Appearing as the first prosecution witness in the Chopra children murder case, Capt. Chopra said he did not know if any Military or Naval Officer had been interrogated or his movements watched by police for a long time in regard to the killing of his children. During cross examination by Defence Counsel, witness admitted that Geeta used to accompany him sometimes to the Defence Officers Club at Dhaula Kaun.

He said he did not know if on some day his daughter had an altercation with a boy belonging to a "high-up's family" or that during the altercation the boy had threatened her that he would "see her" later.

Two Bombay criminals, Billa and Ranga, are standing trial in the case before Mr. Chawla.

Capt. Chopra deposed that on August 26 Sanjay and Geeta had left their Dhaula Kuan residence for Akashvani Bhavan, where Geeta was to prepare a "Yuva Vani" programme.

When he and his wife turned i their transistor radio to listen t the programme at 8 p.m., the found that "the voice was not tha of Geeta. We presumed tha either the programme might hav been changed or that we are no catching the station as th transistor was a small one."

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Charan Singh group's enthusiasm for punishing Mrs. Gandhi seems to have ebbed after this meeting, although it is an open question whether he will swallow the bait offered (according to some versions, it includes the somewhat illusory Prime Ministership). Charan Singh has obviously weighed his options carefully, and it might suit him for the present to remain in Janata.

But the former Prime Minister's path too, is strewn with obstacles.

If the Janata Government speedily sets up special courts (recently okayed by the Supreme Court) to try her and others she would be forced to remain on the defensive.

Tax on migrating Indians

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A heavy dose of tax might prevent educated people from settling abroad, he added.

Mr. Bhagwati was speaking here at a two-day symposium on the Choksi Committee report on Direct Taxes organised by Local Chartered Accountants Association.

The Supreme Court Judge said that these maladies had been effectively dealt with by the Choksi Committee, which had suggested continuous fiscal research and an effective organisation to implement it.

Praising the recommendations of the Committee, he wondered whether the Government would accept it in the changing socio-economic conditions.

Punjab tops

Patiala (IBS) - Punjab is ahead of most of the Scandinavian countries in liquor consumption and just below the United Kingdom and Ireland, according to a study conducted by the psychiatry department of the Government Medical College here.

The study, published in the third quarterly issue of the Indian Journal of Psychiatry (1978), is based on the data pertaining to consumption of alcohol in Punjab during 1973-74. It estimates the mean consumption per drinker as equivalent to 10.0066 litres of absolute alcohol.

Absolute alcohol consumption per drinker (litres) is 9.95 in Sweden, 8.62 in Netherlands, 8.55 in Poland, 7.94 in Finland and 6.96 in Norway.

Mrs. Gandhi to run again

Vijawada, Jan. 12 (UNI) - Mrs. Indira Gandhi indicated here that she would seek re-election to the Lok Sabha from Chikmagalur.

Speaking to newsmen at the Gannavaram Airport last evening, she said many people from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Maharashtra were asking her to contest from their states. Asked whether she would contest from Akola, Mrs. Gandhi countered: "Why Akola? Once one promises to the people in one area, it is not proper to leave them and go to another area", she said.

Alternative N-fuel available

Hyderabad (IBS) - In case the United States stops fuel supply to the Tarapur nuclear plant, Indian nuclear engineers can deliver alternate fuel within two years' a top official of the department of atomic energy said here.

The official, who was here at the Science Congress said the technology for making alternate fuel-mixture of plutonium oxide and uranium oxide is ready.

While uranium is indigenously available, plutonium would have to be obtained by processing the spent fuel of the Tarapur plant now stored under water.

The official said that the only stumbling block to the manufacture of alternate fuel was the right of the United States under the 1963 agreement to take the spent fuel back to America.

If the United States insists on taking the spent fuel back, there will be no source of plutonium for the alternate fuel, the official said.

About 150 tonnes of spent fuel are reportedly kept at the Tarapur storage tank awaiting decision of the government.

The official said that the plant for making fuel rods for Tarapur at the nuclear fuel complex here is presently "underutilised" due to non-arrival of the 16.9 tonnes of enriched uranium from the United States.

But there is a sufficient amount of enriched uranium in stock to keep the fuel fabricating plant running through the end of 1979. There are also spare fuel rods at the Tarapur plant itself and there is no fear of the Tarapur plant closing down.

Asked about the delay in reprocessing the spent fuel, the official said: "It is a political decision and it is linked up with safeguard issues."

Village named after Carter

New Delhi, (UNI) - Daulatpur-Nasirabad village in the Gurgaon district of Haryana has been renamed Carterpuri.

The district administration has prepared a time-bound development plan to accelerate the economic and educational development of the village so that none of the 140 families that have been identified as living below the poverty line remains so by 1980.

The formal inauguration of the implementation of the development programme took place on January 3rd when the village celebrates first anniversary of the visit of the American President, Jimmy Carter, and his wife to this village.

Chief Minister Devi Lal inaugurated the programme and the American Ambassador to India, Robert Goheen, was the chief guest at the function.

Indian rice 8,000 years old

Pune (IBS) - Man domesticated animals and cultivated rice in the Indian subcontinent 8,000 years ago.

This revelation marked the post-plenary symposium of the 20th International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences on "Recent advances in Indo-Pacific prehistory" held here.

The discovery is claimed to have established the transition from a hunting and food-gathering economy to an era of agriculture.

The traces of transition were brought to light during recent excavations in the Vindhyes and the Ganga Valley by G.R. Sharma, head of the Department of Ancient Indian History, Allahabad University.

Sharma told the symposium that extremely arid conditions in the hoary past forced the rivers, including the Ganga, to recede into narrow channels and deepen their beds, leaving behind a large number of horse-shoe lakes. These lakes, he contended, played a decisive role in the life of man in the epi-plaeolithic and mesolithic periods.

Chopra children murder case

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The Witness said he had left for All India Radio (AIR) at 8:45 p.m. to take the children back home after the programme. It had been arranged between him and the children that they were to meet him at the AIR gate at 9 p.m.

On arrival, he did not find them at the gate. He hurriedly went inside the Radio Station and was told that they had not reported at AIR. He became worried when, on telephoning his wife, he was told that the children had not returned home either. He rushed back home. At about 10:15 p.m. he rang up the police control room and the, accompanied by a colleague, Mr. S.K. Chatterjee, went to various places including Willingdon Hospital.

He also lodged a report with the Dhaula Kuan Police Post.

The family searched around the whole town for the children the next two days. At about 4:50 a.m. on August 29 a Police Officer came to his residence and told him that police had found two bodies on the Ridge. "We were taken to the place. We were first shown the dead body of Sanjay and then of Geeta. Both I and my wife had identified them by virtue of their clothes and their faces."

Another prosecution witness, Mr. Ved Pal, Programme Secretary in Yuva Vani, testified that since Geeta Chopra did not turn up for the Yuva Vani broadcast, the programme was presented by the announcer on duty, Miss Nandni Bhatia.

Kula Nand, a chowkidar, deposed that he had known the Chopra children and that on August 26 he had seen them seeking a lift at the Dhaula Kuan bus stop. "In my presence no car stopped and I did not see them going in any car."

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SHAVEN SIKHS

According to a report from Punjab appearing in the January 4th issue of this paper, Punjab's policy is to recruit only Sikhs who retain their hair and beard in the government service. That directive is indeed unbelievably ridiculous in modern times.

India is not a theocratic state, nor is punjab. It is not the function of any Indian provincial government to perpetuate any religious tradition. The next move could be for another provincial government with a Hindu majority (which most provinces have) to decree that only Hindus will be taken in the civil service. Moves such as these can only promote fanaticism in Indian society.

One is really surprised and shocked that this is happening in Punjab that has exported tens of thousands of Sikhs abroad. If the countries in which they are settled adopted a similar kind of intolerance towards the Sikhs (e.g. only Christians will be accepted for any job) what would be the outcome.

It is extremely unwise for the Punjab government to show this kind of rigidity and fanaticism. It might not be a bad idea for some concerned people, particularly from the province, to write to Punjab's Minister for Development Atma Singh who made this announcement.

International Year of the Child

By Our Correspondent

New Delhi - The International Year of the Child was ushered in at a colourful rally in the Capital with more than 300,000 children participating. Some 800 children presented a mass drill amidst the chatterings of the tiny tots who were pronounced the VIPs of the year.

Presiding over the function the President, Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, said: "Our commitment to promote the welfare of children is well known. But let us not for a moment forget that we failed to provide universal elementary education to all children as directed in Article 45 of our Constitution which stipulates that free and compulsory education would be given to all children until they completed the age of 14. This was to have been achieved within a period of 10 years of the commencement of the Constitution. We have still a long way to go. We can reach this goal at least in three decades if only we redouble our efforts."

Mr. Reddy asked the children who were lucky enough to get their education and were looked after with love and affection to think of those destitute children who have no friends to love them.

The rally was organised by the Education Directorate of the Delhi Administration.

Programmes highlighting the needs of children, their education, development and well-being have been planned to cover all the 12 months of the year.

As part of the programme for the year India would host a world conference of children in the 12 to 16 age group in November. The conference would be attended by about 21,000 children from 87 countries. The entire proceedings of the conference would be conducted by children themselves.

In India, out of an estimated children population of 280 million about 100 million children are below the minimum subsistance level. A large number of them are mentally and physically handicapped. Out of the 21 million children born every year, more than 15 million are "unwanted" children.

Immigration and Indo-Canadians

[The following are excerpts from an article in Canadian Public Policy by JOHN R. WOOD, Department of Political Science, the University of British Columbia. Dr. Wood was director of the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute in New Delhi during 1973-75]

This study investigates the political process leading to Bill C-24, **The Immigration Act, 1976**, and its consequences for the East Indians of Canada. Despite grassroots opposition to Third World immigration, the Act ultimately reflected a compromise which limited overall numbers of immigrants but accommodated the interests of East Indians and other minority ethnic groups by retaining a modified form of the 'nominated' selection category of independent relatives. An explanation of the compromise is sought by exploring the sensitivity of the Trudeau government to the indirect pressure of minority ethnic voters in unsafe parliamentary constituencies. It is concluded that East Indians currently derive benefits from the electoral influence of other immigrant groups. Their future position in Canadian society will nevertheless depend on their ability to overcome problems of community isolation and fragmentation.

What effect will the new legislation have on East Indian immigration in the future? It seems inevitable that the high volume of East Indian immigration reached in 1974 will slide back, at least temporarily, to the annual levels of the late 1960s. But nothing in the Immigration Act can prevent that figure from rising again, once labour shortages recur in Canada. As long as European immigration continues to slacken, the Canada's birthrate plummets, and a steady increase in GNP is wanted, non-European immigrants will probably have access to Canada. Given the family reunification provisions in the Act and the foothold of 200,000 or so East Indians already in Canada, East Indians have advantages in the competition to become landed immigrants in Canada that citizens of many countries do not have.

For East Indians, the immediate lesson to be drawn from the Bill C-24 experience is that despite political ineffectiveness on their own part, they derive benefits from the electoral influence of other large immigrant groups. The rise in numbers of East Indians and easier access to citizenship provide an opportunity for greater effectiveness in the future. As long as the problems of community fragmentation and apathy continue, however, East Indians will be a vulnerable minority in Canada. Collectively as well as individually, East Indians have to decide on the nature of their commitment to Canada. Are they merely to sojourn, anticipating an eventual return to India? Or are they to stay permanently, but continue to live in social and political isolation? Alternatively, are they to assimilate totally, abandoning their own cultural heritage for that of white Canadians? Or is integration according to the pluralistic formula, implicit in Canada's multicultural policy a possibility?

One direct result of the East Indian experience of political ineffectiveness during the immigration policy review was the formation in 1975 of the National Association of Canadians of Origins in India (NACOI). The first Canada-wide association of East Indians, it aims to represent East Indian interests politically, protect their civil rights, and improve their 'collective image,' in addition to encouraging East Indians 'to fully participate in Canadian society.' NACOI's membership currently derives from the more affluent and assimilated among East Indians in Canada. Its leadership is frankly elitist because of its frustration in attempting to overcome the apathy which has typically undermined such associational efforts in the past. It remains to be seen whether NACOI will catalyze and lead East Indian opinion in Canada, or merely become what Katznelson calls a 'buffering institution' that protects white society from the full impact of a subordinated minority by co-opting its elite (Katznelson, 1973:175-188).

Clearly, the pattern of East Indian integration will depend most of all on the receptivity of Canadians, and it may take them time to accept the full implications of the multicultural society that immigration of the last decade has created. Meanwhile, steps can be taken to make immigrants like East Indians feel more secure in Canada. One step consists of setting capable watchdogs to ensure fair administration of the Immigration Act. The most important of these is the House of Commons Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration, whose job it is to monitor and criticize the implementation of the Act. A second step is to improve legal protection for new immigrants, and to ensure that human rights legislation is effectively implemented. A third vital step is to bolster the education system, which needs increased financial support if it is to cope with the huge rise in recently immigrated school children. Even if these and other steps are taken, however, East Indians ultimately cannot depend on the political strength of other ethnic groups, or on the electoral needs of the government, or even on the efficacy of parliamentary, legal or educational institutions to protect their position in Canadian society. More effective political participation by East Indians themselves seems equally necessary. This will probably occur as integrative processes and generational change expose even more East Indians to the mainstream of Canadian life and as linkages develop between their presently isolated communities and the political system of their adopted country.

Attempt on Charan's life

New Delhi, Jan. 15 - (UNI) - Jai Narain, a Bihar youth who allegedly tried to kill former Home Minister Charan at his residence recently was remanded in police custody for seven days.

CHARAN SINGH

Jai Narain was brought to the New Delhi Court here under heavy police escort with his head and face covered with a blanket. He was produced before the Metropolitan Magistrate, Shyam Kumar Tandon.

The Police sought more time from the Court to collect information about Jai Narain as parties had to be sent to Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Investigating Agencies like the CBI have also been alerted in this matter the Court was informed.

Mr. Tandon told prosecution that it could make a fresh application later for the extension o remand and that the Court would consider the same on its merits.

Asked if he had anything to say before the Court, Jai Narain said he arrived in Muzaffarpur (in Uttar Pradesh) from Champaran (in Bihar) on December 15. While at Muzaffarpur, where he stayed for four days, he read in the newspapers about the Kisan Rally being organised in the capital on December 23. He decided to attend the Rally.

After hearing Mr. Charan Singh's address in the Rally on December 23, he felt an attempt was being made to destroy the Janata Party which came about following a people's revolution. Therefore, he decided to take the step, Jai Narain added without elaborating.

English not to be given up

Trivandrum (IBS) - Prime Minister Morarji Desai said here that use of Hindi as the country's official link language should come through "the compulsion of the people and not through the compulsion of the State."

Delivering the valedictory address of the tenth anniversary celebrations of the State Institute of Languages, the Prime Minister said there was "no question at all of our discarding English", which was an associate language. But it was important to realize that a people developed only when they had a common language.

Desai recalled that during the freedom struggle Mahatma Gandhi realized the need for a common language. It was he who taught the people the vale of national integration which could be achieved only when the country had a common language.

Nuclear deal

New Delhi (IBS) - The U.S. Embassy in New Delhi has informed India that U.S. clearance had not yet been given for the supply of nuclear plant and technology to China by France. Minister for External Affairs, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, said in the Lok Sabha.

The External Affairs Ministry was maintaining contacts with the Embassy and if the agreement was finalized whatever was necessary from the diplomatic point of view would be done he added in response to a calling attention motion.

Vajpayee agreed that the USA was following double standards in seeking to enforce nuclear safeguards on countries which abjured the manufacture of atomic weapons like India but not insisting on them in regard to countries already possessing such arms, as China.

Desa

By George Mathew

New Delhi: With the hardening of attitude on the part of the former home minister, Charan Singh, the crisis in the ruling Janata party has deepened.

Charan Singh stated that he was no longer prepared to work in the government with Morarji Desai as Prime Minister. He gave the ultimatum as January 29 to find an overall settlement in the Janata party when he has called for a meeting of the erstwhile Bharatiya Lok Dal (BLD) (which merged with Janata after the March 77 elections) and like-minded people to decide on the future course of action.

Senior ministers and the Congress President Chandrashekari who are engaged in talks with Charan Singh to bring him back to the cabinet with honour feel that the situation could be retrieved. The once-rejected proposal to make him Janata party President is being revived.

Meanwhile, Mr. Singh's lieutenant, Raj Narayan, said that Charan Singh would be the future Prime Minister. This confirms the fact that the cause of the crisis was not based on ideological matters, but on personality cults and political ambitions.

The three top leaders on whom the crisis revolves are Morarji Desai (84), Charan Singh (77) and Jagjivan Ram, Defence Minister (70). While Mr. Desai and Charan Singh fight in the party, Mr. Ram is a silent onlooker since he knows for certain that in case of a deadlock he would be the beneficiary. A move to seek the retirement of those above 60 years of age from the party and government is also being mooted.

When Mr. Desai was willing to induct Charan Singh into the cabinet and make him also the *Dy. Prime Minister, Mr. Ram* staked his claim. He was not even willing to accept Dy. Prime Ministership along with Charan Singh. He derives his strength from the support of the Harijans.

Mr. Desai enjoys the majority support in the party which has a strength of 304 in the Lok Sabha: (the erstwhile Janata 87, BLD 81, Congress (O) 52, Socialists 38, CFD (Jagjivan Ram Group) 27, Chandra Shekar group 9 and about 10 others who do not have any former affiliations). If Mr. Charan Singh parts company at present, it is estimated that not more than 40 M.Ps would follow him. The remaining would prefer to be nearer to "power".

The people of the country and many party leaders are fed up with the unresolved crisis in the ruling party. They feel that the good work done by the government on the economic field are negativised by the power politics in the party.

Some ministers like George Fernandez, Minister for Industry, Mohan Daria, Commerce Minister, and L.K. Advani, Minister for Information and Broadcasting had even offered to resign. At one stage the fall of the Morarji cabinet was imminent. But the consequences of a mid-term poll at this stage and the unpredictable polarisation of political parties as a result are keeping the party hanging to power. They are also concerned about the chances of "authoritarian forces" returning to power.

With no hope for a reconciliation with the Prime Minister forthcoming, Charan Singh ultimately made a statement in parliament which was postponed a number

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Nuclear deal

ew Delhi (IPS) : The U.S.
assy in New Delhi has
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had not yet been given for
supply of nuclear plant and
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Desai-Charan tangle

By George Mathew

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With no hope for a reconciliation with the Prime Minister forthcoming, Charan Singh ultimately made a statement in parliament (which was postponed a number of times) on the circumstances which led to his resignation.

In his 32-page statement which took about 70 minutes to read, Mr. Charan Singh said that he was expelled from the cabinet by the Prime Minister, who was looking for a pretext to ease him out when he demanded an inquiry into the conduct of his son, Kanti Desai.

He listed various points of differences with Mr. Desai and the tone of his speech and the words chosen exhibited unmistakable overtone of bitterness. Mr. Desai replied to all the points raised by him bluntly.

The following day the much awaited kisan rally attracting more than a million peasants was held in the Capital to celebrate Charan Singh's birthday. That was indeed a show of strength of the following Mr. Singh has, particularly in the northern belt.

Drawing strength from these developments the BLD group boycotted the Janata Party executive meeting that followed. On the second day of the meeting, he however attened (but did not participate in the discussions) because of persuasions from party leaders.

It was later that Charan Singh set the ultimatum for January 29 for an overall settlement of the differences in the party. He said that he had no formula to offer for a settlement. He is in a dilemma. He wants to stay in the Janata Party. But he does not seem to know how to win a commanding position in the party and government.

Economic Outlook

The economic outlook of the country is bright. The food buffer stock is large enough with satisfactory rate of replenishment. Foreign exchange remittance continue with a satisfactory balance of trade. Prices of most consumable goods are stable. Items of food are easily available.

The industrial recovery which began in April is continuing. The industrial growth rate of 10 per cent in November compared to the rate of the corresponding month in 1977 is heartening.

What is intriguing is the alarming increase in the rate of unemployment (20 per cent) and the increasing cost of urban real estate. Some items like steel and cement has become scarce. The government has decided to take over the distribution of cement to check blackmarketing.

P.M.'s Optimism

In a television interview on the New Year Day the Prime Minister Morarji Desai, said that under the rolling plan of the Janata Government much has been achieved in the field of agriculture, irrigation and electricity. "We have produced up to now 23,000 megawatts or something like that in all these 30 years. In the next five years, we want to have 13,500 megawatts. And we are planning, not only planning for it, we are trying to implement it. But until that is done, it is no use making a claim."

Mr. Desai said the unemployment problem would be solved in 10 years. The 20-month rule of the Janata government is too small a period to make an assesament in the field." But after four years one could see concrete results."

The poverty line, he said, was 50 per cent some time ago and 46 per cent in 77-78. Under the rural development programme in Rajasthan the government had taken up five poorest families in every village covering 1,55,000 families. The conditions of more than 100,000 families had improved significantly.

He was full of optimism about the rolling plan of his government and its hope for the future in planning and development.

Kanti Desai to be investigated

New Delhi, Jan. 13 (UNI) Information and Broadcasting minister L.K. Advani will be associated with the group of ministers which will examine how to resolve the deadlock that has arisen in the Rajya Sabha over the Kanti Desai issue.

Its other members will be Labour Minister Ravindra Varma, Industry Minister George Fernandes, and Railway Minister Madhu Dandavate.

The Congress (I) Opposition, which is in majority in the Council of States, has been pressing for a discussion on allegations of corruption against the son of Prime Minister Morarji Desai and relatives of former Home Minister Charan Singh. In the aftermath of the Lok Sabha action against Congress (I) President Indira Gandhi the party has been blocking all business in the Rajya Sabha.

The consensus in the cabinet on the issue earlier this week was that specific allegations made against the Prime Minister's son, Kanti Desai, relating to the period after March 1977 on the floor of the Rajya Sabha should be referred to the Chief Justice of India to ascertain his opinion on whether or not there was a prima facie case.

Allegations relating to periods before March 1977 would not be referred first because of Mr. Desai has been out of office from 1969 till March last year and secondly, because as late as 1968 Mrs. Gandhi as the Prime Minister had herself dismissed the charges against Mr. Kanti Desai as baseless. During the emergency also the Government could not find anything incriminating in the raid on Mr. Kanti Desai's house in Bombay.

The cabinet decision in this regard marks an advance on the position hitherto taken by Mr. Desai. The Prime Minister has so far stated that only written allegations made by MPs would be referred to the Chief Justice. But new allegations made in the course of the Rajya Sabha debate can also be referred provided these related to the period subsequent to Mr. Desai becoming the Prime Minister.

Earlier Mr. Desai had said it would be open to Mr. Kanti Desai to sue any one for damage if his written allegation was found to be baseless. But no such conditions would now be attached, if any reference is made.

The main task of the group of ministers is to sift the voluminous material relating to the debate in the Rajya Sabha and find out if there are specific allegations of the nature stated above. The group is likely to complete the job before the budget session which may be called in February.

Book Review
Indian file

By Mervyn Jones

India: Population, Economy, Society By R.H. CASSEN MacMillan 10 pounds
Indira's India by S. Nihal Singh Nachiketa Publications 3.50 pounds

Writing this review while preparing to set off for India for the fifth time in my life, I'm more conscious than usual of the attitudes towards that extraordinary country taken by many people I know. They don't understand why I want to go there, apart from the temperature and possibly the art; they know that they would simply find it depressing. It's a place where people slept in the streets 50 years ago and continue to sleep in the streets. The lack of visible improvement in the condition of India convinces them that the outlook is hopeless. And indeed, if 'hope' is to be interpreted at an early prospect that India will somehow be transformed, they are probably right.

I'd like them to read Mr. Cassen's book, just because it is free from illusions or rhetoric and stresses the magnitude of India's problems. They will perhaps recall that, when the 'population explosion' first became a fashionable subject 25 years ago, it was confidently predicted that India would be submerged by devastating famine well before reaching its present population of 580 million. They will see that for India to have remained united, remained (with a startling interregnum) a democracy, solidified its industrial base, and increased its food production enough to dispense with imports - that all this represents a fair achievement.

People who regard India with sympathy, are fascinated by it as I am, and think they know something about it should read this book too. It's written with clarity, with grace, sometimes with humour, and with the rare talent - I speak as a statistic - hater - of integrating a mass of statistics with a reasoned argument. Mr. Cassen is primarily a population expert, but he writes informatively about health and disease, farming, industry, caste and religion, and even the prospects of revolution. He is well aware that the purpose of raising a question is not to supply a pat answer but to set out the relevant considerations, and so he illuminates every question that he does raise. From now on, I should say, an informed discussion of India is a discussion among people who have read Cassen.

This country was aided in making the transition by rising living standards, a steady spread of contraception from 1870 onward, an unbroken reduction in fertility, and (a factor that Mr. Cassen omits) considerable emigration of young men and women. Yet Britain's population has only just ceased to grow. On the most favourable assumptions, the population of India cannot possibly stop growing until the year 2100. Its rate of increase today, at 2.2 per cent per annum, isn't the highest in the world but is well above the 1.5 per cent in the Britain that Malthus knew. Worse still, India is not experiencing the classical features of a period leading to the transition, which are growing material comfort, mass education and urbanisation - the irresistible drift into Indian cities is one of the myths that Mr. Cassen demolishes. We can't expect India, therefore, to make the transition in the European way. It may be made, however, in an Indian way. What is this way? That is impossible to summarize - read the book.

Writing about contraception campaigns, Mr. Cassen sees that the main obstacle, in a poor country without pensions, is that parents rely on children for support in old age. As an Indian writer pointed out recently, a peasant-certainly a landless labourer - without children ends his days as a beggar. The disheartening fact is that many parents, because the children are poor and have children of their own, don't get the support. An intricate calculation leads Mr. Cassen to conclude that they'd do better to avoid getting into debt, save the money required to bring up young children, and invest it in the savings bank. Of this they are unlikely to be convinced.

Mr. Cassen has a vigorously written chapter on the forced sterilisation drive of 1976-7, which he views as an utter disaster likely to prejudice the cause of voluntary contraception for years to come. So one would suppose; but early in 1978 a sociologist with a project in a village near Delhi, where the drive was at its fiercest, told me that this wasn't happening. India is always a surprising country.

Insight into the political scene throughout the rise and fall (and rise?) of Indira Gandhi can be gained from Nihal Singh's book; he is among the soundest and wisest of Indian political journalists and this is a collection of his articles in the Calcutta *Statesman*. Among those who should read it, as well as the categories mentioned earlier, are people who imagine that Indian prose is stilted and pompous or that it mishandles the English language.

It's interesting to trace his *informed view from the day in* 1977 when Mrs. Gandhi astonishingly called a general election. At first, he sees a victory for the power-holders as certain - so did Mrs Gandhi, obviously - and dismisses as 'euphoric' the idea 'that public resentment of the last 19 months' events runs deep and will make itself felt at the poll'. A fortnight before the voting, he discerns an 'anti-Congress wave' and tells his readers: 'Present indications suggest that the Congress is hovering around a bare majority.' The sweeping Janata victory surprises him, but he soon grasps its conservative as well as its pseudo-revolutionary aspect: 'It is indeed remarkable how Janata is slipping into the old Congress ways.' Three months later, he notes 'a measure of disillusionment'. A few more months, and he warns: 'if the Janata governments at the Centre and in the States do not get down to the task of governing with seriousness of purpose, more and more people will begin to find virtues in the Emergency.'

Nihal Singh has said consistently - except during the Emergency, when his column couldn't appear and he could only think it - that he is appalled by Mrs. Gandhi's unscrupulousness and lack of principle. He also says time and again that she is an unrivalled tactician. As we know, she is continuing to prove herself so. Up to the last article in this collection (early 1978) Nihal Singh was discounting the chances of her return to power and telling her that she would do better to emulate De Gaulle, who kept quiet until the people turned to him. I must find out whether Nihal Singh still thinks that.

[New Statesman]

NEWS IN BRIEF

KARANTH'S PLEA TO RETAIN ENGLISH

Trivandrum (IBS) - The renowned Kannada author and Jnanpith award winner, Dr. Sivarama Karanth, has said that the country should not cast away the riches that the English language could provide us.

Presiding over the fifth national convention of Indian authors here, Karanth warned that by driving out the English Language from India, Indian languages would not be able to achieve maturity.

"The human brain needs nourishment and wisdom of all people and we have already inherited the English language and we should not cast away the riches that it could provide us," he said.

INDIAN TO JOIN UNILEVER BOARD

Bombay (IBS) - Chairman of Hindustan Lever T. Thomas will join the boards of Unilever Ltd., London and Unilever NV, Rotterdam, shortly.

This is the first time that a non-European has been appointed to the Board of Unilever, the second largest corporation outside the United States with a turnover of 10,000 million pounds.

BIHAR MOVE TO ARM HARIJANS

Patna, Jan. 13 (UNI) - Volunteer Harijan forces armed by the administration in the sensitive areas of the strife torn Bihar will shortly be raised to fend off attacks on the localities of the hapless people by former landlords and their musclemen.

Chief Minister Karpoori Thakur ordered the States Chief Secretary and the Finance Commissioner to prepare a detailed scheme in this connection.

SURVEY OF TOURISM IN INDIA

New Delhi - The Indian Chapter of Pacific Area Travel Association (PATA), which represents all the major segments of the tourist industry in India, has decided to sponsor a comprehensive survey of tourism and has invited proposals from economic and market research companies qualified to undertake it.

The survey will provide market analysis and assess accommodation, transport and manpower requirements, evaluate the economic and social impact of tourism and determine the practical implications of the policies and plans of the public and private sectors concerned with the promotion and development of tourism in India so as to serve as a blueprint for a perspective plan.

WOMEN ABOVE ALL GOVERNMENTS

Bombay, Jan. 15 (UNI) - Women always have their way and one has but to submit, Prime Minister Morarji Desai remarked at the foundation laying ceremony of the Ali Yavar Jung Institute for the deaf here.

"You always order about. You are above all Government," he said good humouredly to a woman photographer who had asked him to pose for a picture.

He obliged the photographer by getting off the dias to stand in front of the plaque put up at the site.

CHARLIE CHAPLIN STATUE IN CALCUTTA

Calcutta (IBS) - Calcutta will be the first city in the world to have a statue of Charlie Chaplin, Public Works Minister Jatin Chakravarti said.

The statue will show Charlie as the tramp, complete with baggy trousers and stick.

It will be installed at the park adjoining the Municipal Building which the Government renamed Charlie Square a few months ago.

Sunil Pal has been commissioned to do the life-size statue in bronze which will cost about Rs. 150,000. It will be completed within a year.

DISTANT COUSINS BREED TALLER OFFSPRING

New Delhi (IBS) - Marriages between second or more distant cousins may result in taller and broader offspring.

"The trend is surprising" admits Dr. Deva Prasad Mukherjee, Deputy Director of the Anthropological Survey of India, Calcutta. "But we found it reflected consistently in three population samples we studied."

Dr. Mukherjee said, he was not yet clear about the factor responsible.

RECYCLING URGED TO SAVE RESOURCES

Bombay (IBS) - Homi Sethna, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, today called for recycling products of everyday use to reduce total dependence on non-renewable resources and save important raw materials from depletion.

Dr. Sethna was inaugurating an international conference on advances in chemical metallurgy at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) here.

He said many raw materials which were in abundance in India a few years ago were scarce today due to their indiscriminate exploitation.

GRADUATES AS CONSTABLES

Bangalore - Four graduates have joined the city's Armed Reserve Police as constables.

This is the first time that graduates here have opted for recruitment as police constables, for which the minimum prescribed qualification is only schooling up to Standard VIII.

INDIA HAS ONE-FIFTH WORLD'S LEPERS

Calcutta - India has approximately one-fifth of the world's leprosy patients, totalling 3.2 million.

CREATOR OF AIR INDIA'S "MAHARAJA" DEAD

Bombay (IBS) - S.V. Waghulkar, Chief art director of Hindustan Thompson here and designer of Air India's "Maharaja" died here recently after a heart attack. He was 56.

Starting as an army draughtsman in 1948, Waghulkar joined the Government of India's Cartoon Film Division and won a number of prizes in fine arts and commercial art.

HISTORY OF SINDHI HINDUS 2

BY SHYAM KHUBCHANDANI

[Continued from last issue]

Sindhi Hindus - Hindus whose ancestors lived in the Province of Sindh now in Pakistan - are a vibrant and proud people. Their natural gift of adaptability has helped them add to their heritage and excel through changing times and migrations. Now numbering over three million, about 90 per cent reside in India, Bombay being the biggest centre. Rest are scattered all over the world, specially in large commercial centres; Hong Kong having the biggest complement.

By and large a community of business people, Sindhis have also excelled as professionals, administrators, educators and spiritual seekers. Underlying all their achievements is a proud awareness of their distinctive culture inherited through generations.

The current four part series of articles briefly describes the history of Sindhi Hindus. The historical events reflect the ruling powers and the prevalent political, social and religious conditions. Accordingly, this history is related under four distinct periods - Hindu (prior to 711 A.D.), Muslim (711 to 1843), British 1843 to 1947) and Modern (since 1947).

II MUSLIM PERIOD (712 to 1843)

Muhammad-Bin-Qasim and his Arab successors who settled in Southern Sindh were zealous muslims who believed fervently in their new religion. They converted many Hindus to Islam. Many more, however, preferred to flee north into Punjab or east into Rajasthan. The rise of Khalifas was sudden; their empire quickly spread all over Southern Europe up to Spain and Northern Africa. However, their fall was equally sudden with the reign lasting less than 300 years up to about 1000 A.D.

After the decline of Arabs, Sindh was ruled successively by two local tribes [converts from Rajputs] Sumras, Samas, followed by Arghuns, Turks and Moghuls. After the decline of Moghuls, Kalhoras a local race of mendicants ruled Sindh who were succeeded by Balochi Talpurs or Mirs.

The Muslim rule in India reached its zenith under Moghuls in 1500's. Akbar, the greatest of Moghuls was born in Sindh near Amarkot when his father Humayun was in flight. Sindh rulers from Thatta, then the capital helped Humayun regain his throne. One of Akbar's nine famous advisors [called Nau Ratans] Raja Birbal, a Rajput Brahmin hailing from Thatta, was a great wit.

Large scale migration of Hindus back into Sindh took place during the 16th and 17th century due to three main reasons:

1. Continuous fighting in Punjab between the new Sikhs and Aurangzeb [the fanatic Moghul emperor] as well as the turmoil during the later decline of the Moghul empire. Many Punjabi Hindus moved South into Sindh to escape atrocities. Thus the city of Shikarpur [originally a hunting ground called Shikargah] was founded by four such Punjabi families - Chugh, Chawla, Makhija and Bajaj.

2. Fighting and political instability in Rajasthan. To escape such fighting families like Hingoranis [Khatris] and Odhas [Brahmins] moved from Jaisalmir.

3. Famines and a devastating earthquake in Kutch which shifted the mouth of Indus River and silted up the flourishing port of Khambhat [now in Gujarat]. To escape hunger and disease, several families moved north to Sindh.

Most present Sindhi Hindus can trace their ancestry to one of the above. Only a few such as Thakurs from Rohri and Sweban are descendents of original pre-Muslim Hindus. Thakurs of the ruling class later became custodians of the shrines and gave religious instructions.

The cultural intermingling that took place between new Hindus and Muslims was marvellous in its scope. A mixture of the two religions called Sufism, influenced strongly by Vedantism and Bhakti movements then dominant all over North India emerged as the most prevalent local faith. Sachi Udero Lal of Nasarpur, worshipped as a Saint, was a proponent of this belief. Sufi Lal Qalander Shah who preached in Sewhan was considered by Hindus as a reincarnation of Raja Bharatri who had worshipped Shiva at the same place. The annual fair at Sweban was a major religious event for both Hindus and Muslims as well as a literary event.

Sufi [from Safa or Pak] though believes in the unity of human soul with God and transient nature of worldly objects and possessions [Maya] which hide the true illumination of human soul, Sufis believe that all religions are the same, the aim of life is to realize God or the divinity within ourselves and that physical love [Ishiq Mijazi] is a prelude to spiritual love [Ishiq Haqiqi].

Sufism inspired great literature, music and drama. March of Sufism could not be impeded by the fanaticism of Muslim rulers [Kalhoras] who beheaded the greatest Sindhi Sufi Shah Inayat of Jhok Sharrif and presented the head to the reigning Moghul emperor. A poetical work of great beauty "Besar Nama" contains the compositions supposedly recited by the "head" for his fellow men.

Three greatest Sindhi writers Shah Abdul Latif, Sachal Faquir and Sami wrote their masterpieces based on an undercurrent of Sufi faith. They and other Sindhi writers have immortalized seven Sindhi epics - Rai Dyach, Lila Chanesar, Umar Marui, Mumal Rano, Nuri Tamachi, Sohni Mehar and Sasoi Punhoon. In these epics, it is the heroines who aggressively seek their beloved, also interpreted to be God.

Shah-Jo-Risalo relates these epics in musical verse of great exaltation and benediction set to Ragas and Surs. Sachal's lyrics [Kafis] are explosive outbursts full of fury and anguish often turning to the question - "Who am I?" Sami, [real name Murlidhar] a cloth merchant and commission agent from Shikarpur assimilated the Vedas, Puranas and Gita before starting to write his slokas at age 40. His verses are distinguished by their cool melodiousness and spiritual serenity. His Shikarpuri Sindhi is simple and appealing.

The Indus River, the life line of Sindh, has had tremendous influence on the history and culture of Sindhis. It is always reverently referred to as "Darya Shah" in literature, poetry and song. Famous Sindhi chant Jhoole-Lal is an ode to Darya Shah.

The Sindhi Hindus applied their trading and business talent to local industry which started to flourish. Nasarpuri Khais, woodwork from Halla, Patkas from Thatta, Chandnis from Thar had place of pride in every home. Shikarpuri Bajajs became shroffs [bankers] to rulers and minted and distributed currency on their behalf. Bhojwani Seths of Karachi and Sagranis of Hyderabad were financiers to Mirs.

Thatta was also a centre of education and a great textile centre. Its population included 60,000 koris making famous muslins for women and lungis for men. The fame of this city attracted the son of Sant Kabir, the most famous Kori whose teachings are part of Sikh religion's Sri Guru Granth Sahib. After 18th century Thatta gradually declined with the change in the course of river Indus.

A few Hindus also entered the service of Mirs as crop collectors [Ambadars] and in other civil jobs. They adopted Muslim dress customs, and learnt Persian, the court language. All the Hindu financial advisors and financiers retained their customary dress [Dhoti, Pagri and long coat].

In their social affairs, Hindus adopted the prevailing Muslim customs. Thus the houses had separate sections for women who were in semi-purdah. Men gathered among themselves in their Otaks [drawing rooms] around a hooka. Education was confined to languages and religious scriptures.

Although strongly influenced by Muslims, Hindus resisted any attempt to convert to Islam or inter-marry. Thus Seth Hotchand Bhojwani rather than convert switched his allegiance from Mirs to Nawab of Kalat. Daughter of Gidumal, financial advisor to Mirs insisted on dying rather than marry into Mirs. Mirs got so angry that they had Gidumal assassinated in turn.

The Muslim rule in India was on the decline after Moghuls. During the latter years of Moghul empire, India received several European explorers, traders and missionaries. The British came to Sindh first as traders in Thatta and then as political protectors of Mirs against Ranjit Singh of Punjab. They used Sindh as a base for their intervention in Afghanistan and made demands for money as well as soldiers from Mirs for this purpose. On flimsy excuses that such help was not adequate, the eccentric swash-buckler British agent Sir Charles Napier overwhelmed the divided Mirs easily in the Battle of Miani [near Hyderabad, then the capital] in 1843. [To be continued]...

Carter deal denied

New Delhi (IBS) - Prime Minister Morarji Desai emphatically denied that he had reached a secret understanding with President Jimmy Carter to allow U.S. scientists to inspect nuclear establishments in this country.

"I have no secret understanding with anybody on earth in any matter," he told the Rajya Sabha. "I would not deserve to be an Indian if I had reached such an understanding."

The Prime Minister reiterated that India would not be bound by the advice of the committee of scientists formed recently to examine safeguards for nuclear establishments.

Films

Atithee

Produced and directed by
bind Sen
Music: Kalyanji Anandji

Many WeakSpots

It is a fallacy to say that a
theme can always become a
film. Only an intelligent
imaginative team of film-m
can be expected to turn a
film out of an untried the
Sometimes novelty of the t
itself becomes a damper; lo
of proving stimulus to inno
and/or invention, it becom
hindrance to even straight s
narrative. Atithee is such a

An unknown guest comes
middle-class household be
with many problems: the m
tal house on mortgage,
eldest son a runaway from
the younger son a law
himself; two marriageable
ghters, the father stricken
heart condition, mother findi
difficult to make both ends m
The guest, however, is rec
with open arms. In return
affection and love he rec
from the family, he tries to
them monetarily and morally.
supports the younger daug
win over her beau with hi
falling for the eldest one. Th
saves both from the evil des
of a rake. Also, he is successf
reforming the wayward you
non. He soothes the wound
the law-breaker's wife waitin
the news of her husband who
taken to depriving the rich o
sheer spite and revenge. Bu
law-breaker is difficult to b
round - which forms the clim
the film.

As a serious plot it is on the
side, its complex structure m
it thicker. There is an attemp
in-depth study of the chara
but in the stylistic structu
flashback technique - it is l
Whatever instructive vitality
narrative has is disturbed by
technique. It not only disturb
rhythm but also succeeds
confusing the viewer. In
intellectual film this sty
structure is accepted and ra
welcomed, but in a comme
movie, it is unpardonable.

Gulzar is another film-m
who mostly depends on
structural pattern but not al
successfully. Recently Sath
Kanneshwar Rama followed
pattern, which was its unmak
If Gulzar's Mausam was suc
it was not because of its struc
technique, but for its sub
matter and the performance
the two lead characters: Sha
Tagore as a fallen angel,
Sanjeev Kumar as her lover.

Cosmetic touches do not a
remove the ugliness of a
The touch of pathos and co
sequences neither add nor
tract from the Atithee dra
Sorry to say Arabind Sen ha
been served well by his stor
screenplay writer, Prafulla
His own direction is also
exceptional - he was bett
Kasauti. Marshal Bhag
photography is not of the h
he is known for. If there
merit in Kalyanji Anandji's
ical score it is not noticed a
Only one dance number in
mujra, choreographed by
Krishna, and danced by one
disciples in Bharattanatyam
tume.

The characters stand flat-f
they indulge in stock gestur
live their screen images - a
factor contributing to the
disappointing result.

Shatrughan Sinha looks w
dispirited in spite of his
turous acts and dare-devilr

US 2

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ab.

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Latter dead denied

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Films

Aathee

Produced and directed by Aravind Sen
Music: Kalyanji Anandji

Many WeakSpots

It is a fallacy to say that a good theme can always become a good film. Only an intelligent and imaginative team of film-makers can be expected to turn a good film out of an untried theme. Sometimes novelty of the theme itself becomes a damper; instead of proving stimulus to innovation and/or invention, it becomes a hindrance to even straight simple narrative. Aathee is such a case.

An unknown guest comes to a middle-class household beset with many problems: the ancestral house on mortgage, the eldest son a runaway from law, the younger son a law unto himself, two unmarriageable daughters, the father stricken with heart condition, mother finding it difficult to make both ends meet. The guest, however, is received with open arms. In return for affection and love he receives from the family, he tries to help them monetarily and morally. He supports the younger daughter win over her beau with himself falling for the eldest one. Thus he saves both from the evil designs of a rake. Also, he is successful in reforming the wayward younger son. He soothes the wounds of the law-breaker's wife waiting for the news of her husband who has taken to depriving the rich out of sheer spite and revenge. But the law-breaker is difficult to bring round - which forms the climax of the film.

As a serious plot it is on the thick side, its complex structure makes it thicker. There is an attempt at in-depth study of the characters but in the stylistic structure - flashback technique - it is lost. Whatever instinctive vitality the narrative has is disturbed by the technique. It not only disturbs its rhythm but also succeeds in confusing the viewer. In an intellectual film this stylistic structure is accepted and rather welcomed, but in a commercial movie, it is unpardonable.

Gulzar is another film-maker who mostly depends on this structural pattern but not always successfully. Recently Sathyu's Kannaeshwar Rama followed this pattern, which was its unmaking. If Gulzar's Mausam was successful, it was not because of its structural technique, but for its subject-matter and the performances of the two lead characters: Sharmila Tagore as a fallen angel, and Sanjeev Kumar as her lover.

Cosmetic touches do not always remove the ugliness of a face. The touch of pathos and comedy sequences neither add nor subtract from the Aathee drama. Sorry to say Aravind Sen has not been served well by his story and screenplay writer, Prafulla Roy. His own direction is also not exceptional - he was better in Kasauti. Marshal Braganza's photography is not of the heights he is known for. If there is any merit in Kalyanji Anandji's musical score it is not noticed at all. Only one dance number is good: mujra, choreographed by Gopi Krishna, and danced by one of his disciples in Bharattanatyam costume.

The characters stand flat-footed, they indulge in stock gestures and live their screen images - another factor contributing to the film's disappointing result.

Shatrughan Sinha looks wan and dispirited in spite of his adventurous acts and daredevilry. His florid manner has become stale and stereotyped by repetition. Shashi Kapoor's character of the noble guest is lifeless and routine. The fact is that he had given better performances in films made by foreigners than Indians. With Utpal Dutt, the law of diminishing returns has set in - try hard he may to be a different villain, he cannot impress one with his oft-repeated baddie on the screen. Mahmood Junior is a pain in the neck. His childish antics do not entertain one any more - partly because he has become adult. Imitating his mentor, Mahmood, won't lead him anywhere. That is the reason one has seen him after a long time. Deven Verma's comedy is lukewarm-he scarcely changes his tongue-in-cheek style.

Shabana Azmi, the winner of the best actress award for her Harijan wife's role in Ankur has not Shone through in any commercial movie. She is good only in Art and experimental films. Advisable for her to stick to them. In commercial cinema she doesn't stand much of a chance to become a star. Urmilla Bhatt's mother is more tragic than pathetic. Vidya Sinha plays the girl next-door and tries hard to look the girl next-door. Gayatri, the younger daughter in the family, is the only fresh thing that has happened to Aathee: sweet in manners, clear in diction, and charming young personality.

Aathee needed a better script, a better dialogue writer, a better director and better cast to put life into it and bring out its human and sociological aspects, with a sure sense of style. If only the director had understood so many weak spots in the film, like the guest in the film itself who did so many good things to the family, and made an attempt to strengthen them, Aathee would have been better.

DARSHAK - Democratic World.

Kummatty

Music: Aravindan

UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATION

Spoils of the commercial field are many and varied. Experiment is rarely rewarding, especially in a field like the cinema. Many off-beat film-makers have sway from their off-beat track. Even Satyajit Ray has become "commercial" - to wit Shatranj Ke Khilari. Basu Chatterji has evolved his own commercial formula. Shyam Benegal found it easy to compromise his artistic sensibilities. His Ankur is the only artistically satisfying film; Bhumika and others had too many commercial elements in them. M S Sathyu, after making Garam Hawa, lost his moorings in Kannaeshwar Rama whose tedious structure was its undoing.

Mrinal Sen is keeping his Marxist flag flying. Oka Uri Katha (Telugu), based on Munshi Premchand's story, Kafan, was his crowning achievement.

It is a rare film-maker who sticks to experimentation with the film medium. Mani Koul is one (in Hindi), G. Aravindan is another (in Malayalam). The latest, and the fourth, Kummatty, venture by Aravindan is a children's film which is based on a folk tale. Rather its plot is patterned on a folk tale. How an innocent soul turns children into animals, in a game of fun and frolick, and what nasty experiences a child-turned-puppy undergoes when he is hated by members of its own specie.

Kummatty is laced with humour, gags, seriousness and poignant situations. It could be read on many levels, as much as John Abraham's Donkey is a Brahmin's Domain (Tamil), Kummatty's metaphors and symbols make it more an adult film, meant for serious filmgoers. Yet on the juvenile level, it would charm the children too. The message/moral of the film is evident in the last few frames - the montage sequence of birds. Bondage is as much a curse for the animals and birds, as for the human beings. All this is driven home in a suggestive way. The puppy realises the "bondage-system" at the doglovers' house when in chains and is looked down upon by the pedigree dogs he has to share his food and shelter with. He finds it humiliating, tries to free himself from the chain but is helpless. The chain is more powerful than his own prowess to break it.

Kummatty could be read as a political parable. Human beings cannot be reduced to dumb animals; freedom to them is much more than creature comforts. They pine for freedom, crave for it and do their best to regain it, in spite of the harsh bonds.

Most of the dramatis personae in the film are the village folk of Chemeni, situated in the northern part of Kerala. Kummatty is played by a seasoned dance teacher, 62-year-old Ramunni, who is a musician, a Kathakali dancer and many other things. He plays the innocent but outlandish character of Kummatty with rare devotion and creative improvisation. The dances he dances are neither classical nor modern, just a mixture of steps, movements and gestures which could easily be imitated by boys and girls. The language is sparse, Kummatty himself speaks nonsensible syllables, written in a poetry form by Kavalam Narayan Pannikkar, who has written the plot. It is rendered in folk diction. Music is composed by Aravindan himself, using mostly percussion instruments like chanda, drums, edakka, thimila, maddalam, etc.

Perhaps Kummatty is the first children's film in folk tradition. Satyajit Ray's Goopi Gaya, Bagha Bayan was a folktale but not stylised, except for the dance sequence in it which was patterned after a French film sequence. Mrinal Sen's children's film Inchapuran cannot boast of any folklore. Shyam Benegal's is based on folk theatre traditions of Chattisgarhi folklore. It is the cocon version of Hindustani Theatre's stage version written and produced by Habib Tanvir. It is in a certain Chhattisgarhi dialect, but the treatment is not so folksy, though its locale and characters dresses are rural.

What kind of treatment has Aravindan given to Kummatty? "Some may consider its plot a fantasy, but I've avoided giving it a fantasy treatment. Even transformation of human beings and animals is sketched out as if something is happening in reality."

What do you want to convey by the friendship between the parrot and puppy? "that human beings can communicate among themselves, animals with animals, birds with birds, beings with animals, and vice versa, without the use of any proper and well-understood language. I thought of universal communication when the parrot and puppy communicate with each other and understand each other without a common language."

DARSHAK - In Democratic World

TV LINK SOON AMONG METROPOLITAN CENTRES

New Delhi (IBS) - Relay of live television programmes among the metropolitan towns of Delhi, Calcutta and Bombay will be possible in the next few months.

PREDICTIONS 1979

(Swami Narayana has made the following predictions for 1979).

Sometime in the first half of 1979 a top secret medical file will come into the possession of a Washington Post reporter revealing that President Jimmy Carter has been treated for some time by a psychiatrist on a White House couch. The President has been under such stress lately, that it is quite likely he will either jump or fall out of a window after a dramatic White House conference.

****

In 1979 Muhammad Ali will give up his boxing career and become a successful candidate for the U.S. Senate.

****

Bob Hope will probably last forever but should watch out for motorcycles and muggers.

****

Prime Minister Trudeau and the Liberal Party will lose the elections held in the spring of 1979.

****

President Idi Amin will attempt to have himself crowned Emperor of Uganda.

****

U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance will be a victim of changes on the political scene. The same fate awaits Andrew Young, U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. - but on different grounds.

****

Sometime during the next seven months Premier Menachem Begin will drop out of public life entirely. He will be committed to a top-secret psychiatric sanatorium ostensibly for the treatment of a heart attack.

****

During the first quarter of 1979 the U.S. dollar will fall and settle at 1.67 West German marks and 150 Japanese yen.

****

A member of the British Royal Family will attempt suicide by swallowing a great many sleeping pills in the washroom of a downtown Toronto Hotel.

****

Conservative Party leader Joe Clark will become the next Prime Minister of Canada. He will prove to be an able statesman and will have extremely successful financial and economic policies.

****

Indications are strong that in 1979, at least one, if not several, members of the Kennedy and Rockefeller families will die of apparently natural causes.

****

Margaret Trudeau will divorce her husband within 12 months of his losing the Federal election. The divorce contract was drawn up and signed in 1978, and is reposing in a lawyer's office.

****

The Shah of Iran will take up residence in Switzerland in 1979.

****

There will be a state funeral for John Diefenbaker. The new National Gallery will be located on John Diefenbaker Square.

****

The Camp David Accord will not work out. Soviet arms and military advisers will probably be in Egypt by around July 1980, or sooner. A new Israeli-Arab war will take place about September. Israeli forces will have to face Soviet soldiers and pilots. Units of the Soviet Fleet might possibly see action in the Mediterranean.

****

Madame Indira Gandhi could possibly be the victim of an accident engineered by members of the Janata government of India.

**********The Janata government of India may fall apart in 1979.

In 1979 the price per barrel of crude oil will be increased substantially by the O.P.E.C countries. [Exact dates and prices can be purchased from ESPON.]

****

Anita Bryant will run for either U.S. Senate or Congress in 1979 and will be shot at during her campaign. If she is elected, she will follow in the footsteps of Senator Joseph McCarthy.

****

The plebiscite on separation will take place in Quebec in the spring of 1979. It will produce a 54-56% vote in favour of separation. These results will be challenged by the Supreme Court of Canada on constitutional and procedural grounds.

GAVASKAR'S UNIQUE FEAT

Calcutta (IBS) - By scoring a century in each innings of the third Test against West Indies here, Sunil Gavaskar became the only batsman in the world to have scored a century in each innings of a Test thrice.

There are only four other batsmen who have scored a century in each Test twice. They are: Herbert Sutcliffe (England), George Headley (West Indies), Clyde Walcott (West Indies) and Greg Chappel (Australia).

Prime Minister Morarji Desai has sent his "heartiest congratulations" to Sunil Gavaskar, on his establishing "a world record".

Committee for
Dual citizenship
Ottawa:
The next meeting will
be held at the main
Public library,
February 13
at 7:30 p.m.
All are welcome

SMUGGLING OF INDIAN FILMS

Bombay - In spite of the fact that Indian films are getting increasingly popular in overseas countries with the Kapoors captivating the hearts of the millions in Russia, Parvin Bedi stealing the front page of Time and Kabir Bedi zooming up as the only he-man on the European screen after Sandoken, the export trade has failed to push up the film export by any remarkable degree in the past few years.

Craze for foreign cars

The streets of Delhi have of late been flooded with elegant-looking imported cars, mostly driven by Chauffers, showing that Indians, if they can afford it, prefer a second-hand foreign car to a new Indian one.

The most popular make of foreign cars are Peugeot (French, models 504 and 404), Volkswagen (German, the latest model being the Passat), Fiat (the Italian model being more in demand than the polish model), Ford (American), Volvo (Swedish), Toyota and Datsun (Japanese), and sports cars.

These second-hand cars cannot be bought in the market. Government has the monopoly.

The procedure for the sale and purchase of these cars is complicated. Foreign embassies, High Commissions, U.N. agencies and foreign experts who come to this country under agreements with the Government of India must approach the External Affairs Ministry when they want to dispose of their cars. Indians are ordinarily not allowed to bring in imported cars.

The State Trading Corporation invites tenders for these vehicles and the vehicles are sold to the highest bidders at public auctions. Some cars are also given to the tourist operators on the recommendation of the Ministry of Tourism.

Once the vehicle is sold at an auction there is no restriction on its resale.

The prices of second-hand foreign cars have been going up in the auctions. A peugeot which cost only Rs. 70,000 a year back, now fetches Rs. 2,00,000.

According to a dealer, the trend for high prices was set by an auction where a 280 SE (Super Ejection) Mercedes was auctioned for Rs. 8,03,000 plus 10 per cent sales tax. The maximum price that a Mercedes had fetched earlier was Rs. 2,00,000.

But even this price is nothing compared to a later auction of a 300 D Mercedes for Rs. 11,00,000.

New gas find promising

New Delhi (IBS) - Petroleum and Chemicals Minister H.N. Bahuguna disclosed in the Lok Sabha that an off-shore gas field of "significance" had been discovered 120 km. off north-west Bombay.

One well drilled in the field by "Shaqandoah", a jack-up rig, had yielded a 70-metre thick gas bearing column and that testing of the column, commenced on December 9 last, had given a production of 220,000 cubic metres per day together with condensates, he added.

Bahuguna said that three more horizons in the well were to be tested. Only after all the zones were tested, the potential of the field would be determined. A few assessment wells would be drilled for determining the size of the field and the commerciality of the gas find.

Opposite views on Chikmagular seat

New Delhi, Jan. 2 (UNI) - A former election commissioner and a constitutional expert today gave diametrically opposite views on the effect of the resolution expelling Mrs. Indira Gandhi from the Lok Sabha.

S.P. Sen Varma who was Chief election Commissioner from 1967 to 1972 said here that her expulsion had not rendered the Chikmagalur seat vacant because the resolution passed by only one House of Parliament could not be regarded as a law disqualifying her.

Ashok Desai constitutional expert on the other hand asserted in Bombay that expulsion was not merely a disciplinary measure but also a remedial one. Expulsion did cause vacation of seat. He said: "it will be an odd situation if a member is expelled but the seat is not deemed vacant as it will result in indefinite disenfranchisement of the constituency (from which the member was elected)"

The Chikmagalur seat has "automatically" fallen vacant with the expulsion of Mrs. Gandhi and there is no need for a separate resolution to "unseat", he added.

Sen Varma said: "prima facie it will appear that the Lok Sabha resolution expelling Mrs. Gandhi from the House is not a law and can never be regarded a law because law requires the concurrence of all the three wings of Parliament -- the President, the House of the people and the Council of States."

Sen Varma said that there was no provision under the representation of the people Act 1961, laying down that expulsion of a member by a resolution of the House of the people would amount to vacation of the seat.

Sen Varma said that none of the disqualifications mentioned in sub-clauses (a), (b), (c) and (d) were applicable to Mrs. Gandhi while sub-clause (e) was a residuary clause. Sen Varma said the resolution of one House of Parliament was not a law. He referred to article 79 of the constitution which says: "there shall be a Parliament for the union which shall consist of the President and two Houses to be known respectively as the council of states and the House of people".

Commenting on the argument of C.M. Stephen, Opposition leader in the Lok Sabha, that Mrs. Gandhi retains her seat since she was "not unseated", Ashok Desai said in an interview that the interpretation (of Mr. Stephen) was not correct.

The makers of the constitution had adopted the privilege of the House of Commons (as was in existence till 1950) under the original provisions of the article 105. These provisions would continue to stay till Indian Parliament codified its own law.

Article 105 is a fascinating provision under which Parliament can regulate its own constitution, he said.

Mr. Desai explained that an order of suspension required the member to be absent from the House either for a specific period or as long as the House did not revoke the decree. But "expulsion is not only a disciplinary but also remedial measure. A necessary corollary of expulsion was that it caused vacation of the seat.

Scientists honoured

Hyderabad (IBS) - Eleven distinguished Indian scientists below 30 years of age, were the proud recipients of the Science Academy medals for the year 1978, from the Prime Minister Morarji Desai.

All the recipients would receive cash awards, besides the medals. Each of the medal winners will receive Rs. 5,000 grant from the Kothari Scientific and Research Institute, Calcutta, and Rs. 1500 from the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

The awardees are: Dr. Praveen Chandra, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Bombay, for his work on "electron momentum density in condensed media."

Dr. (MRS) Renu Khanna Chopra, Water Technology Centre, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, for her work on "photo-synthesis as related to heterosis and development stages in maize, sorghum, wheat and brassica."

Dr. K.C. Das, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, for his work on "stationary distance vectors and their relation with eigenvectors."

Mr. A.R. Datta, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Bombay, for his contribution to "pathway analysis of genetic recombination in escherichia coli."

Dr. Vinay V. Deodhar, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay, for his work on "Bruhat ordering and Verma modules."

Mr. S. Eswaramoorthy, Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore, for his contribution to "control of green bug by the fungus cephalosporium lecanii."

Dr. Chunilal Ghosh, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Bombay, for his work in the field of "electronics."

Dr. J.N. Goswami, Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, for his work on "energetic particles and dust grains in interplanetary space: results from lunar and emeteorite research."

Dr. S. Ramaseshu, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, for his contribution to "theoretical aspects of phase transitions."

Dr. H.A. Ranganath, University of Mysore, Mysore, for his contributions in "population genetics of drosophila."

Dr. Kalidas Sen, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, for his contribution to "shielding anti-shielding effect in atoms and molecules."

TEST-TUBE BAY NO MIRACLE, ONLY HARD WORK

Hyderabad (IBS) - Dr. Subash Mukerjee and his team in Calcutta tried their technique on over 100 women before producing the first Indian test-tube baby.

Dr. Mukerjee told the Science Congress here that the child had been thoroughly examined by a top pediatrician

Friendship renewed

By Geoffrey Stevens

The visits to India this month by Opposition Leader Joe Clark and Tony Abbott, the Minister of Revenue and Small Business, reflect more than a desire to escape Ottawa in the depth of winter.

Not that that isn't reason enough for any sane human.

The two visits - plus one by Ontario Attorney-General Roy McMurtry - signal the rapid return to normal of Canada-India relations. It used to be that a month seldom passed without one Indian dignitary or another passing through Ottawa. All this ended, abruptly, in May, 1974, when India exploded its so-called "peaceful nuclear device", using plutonium from a Canadian-supplied reactor. Ottawa suspended, then terminated, nuclear co-operation with India. Bilateral relations went into a deep freeze in July, 1975, when the then Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, declared her state of emergency and imprisoned her main political opponents (including the present Prime Minister, Morarji Desai, who spent 18 months in jail).

Since then, there hadn't been, until this month, a single, official high-level visit in either direction between Ottawa and New Delhi.

The freeze began to thaw in March, 1977, when Mrs. Gandhi's Congress Party was defeated in the national elections. Three months later, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and Prime Minister Desai met privately during the Commonwealth Conference in London. The following March, Ottawa tested the waters by sending C.T. Charland, an assistant deputy minister in Industry, Trade and Commerce, to India with a delegation of businessmen. In September, H.M. Patel, India's Finance Minister, attended the Commonwealth Finance Ministers' meeting in Montreal, but did not visit Ottawa. In October, Arif Baig, the Minister of State for Commerce, visited Canada as the guest of the Ontario Government and came to Ottawa while he was here.

Rapprochement is due to three factors - the defeat of Mrs. Gandhi, the passage of time and, most important, India's swelling foreign reserves. Although India, on per capita income, remains one of the poorest countries in the world, is consistenly near the top of the Canadian International Development Agency's priority list and is the largest recipient of Canadian aid, the country has had seven good harvests in the past eight years and, because of its ability to produce 35-40 per cent of its petroleum requirements, has been able to escape the full impact of escalating world oil prices. The result is surprisingly healthy foreign reserves, approaching $6-billion.

The opportunity to detach India from some of its loose cash is tantalizing. Trade (averaging around $150-million a year in Canadian sales to India and about $70-million in the other direction) did not suffer during the five-year diplomatic estrangement, and officials estimate that these figures can be doubled or trebled. To this end, Canada is prepared to pitch hard in high-technology fields, principally communications and transportation (Mr. Abbott's trade mission, which is in India this week, includes representatives from de Havilland Aircraft, Canadair, and Pratt and Whitney).

There is no prospect, however, of a resumption of nuclear relations. The Desai Government is as uncompromising as its predecessor was in its refusal to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty or to accept "full-scope" safeguards.

How long this newly nearly normal relationship can be sustained is a moot point. On balance, the Desai Government is a non-aligned, pragmatic, right-of-centre administration, but the Janata coalition is a ramshackle edifice which covers the spectrum from Marxist to extreme right-wing. And Mr. Desai will be 83 next month. So far, the coalition has been sustained partly by good luck (the harvest) and an external unifying force (the continued presence of Mrs. Gandhi as de facto leader of the opposition).

For the moment, however, Mr. Clark gets an audience with Prime Minister Desai, Mr. Abbott announces the creation of a joint Canada-India economic commission and it's business (more or less) as usual. And we'll all try to forget the "peaceful" explosion of 1974.

[The Globe and Mail]

Science Congress opened

Hyderabad, Jan. 13 (UNI) - The sixty-sixth session of the Indian Science Congress opened here with appeals from Prime Minister Morarji Desai and science Congress President Prof. R.C. Mehrotra for giving a new direction to science and technology in India by applying them for rural development and waging a war against poverty.

About 3250 RPT 3250 scientists, including 250 from abroad, heard the Prime Minister stress that scientists should be accountable for the tax-payer's money.

Mr. Desai chided them "not running after power, status and money, abandoning the lofty ideals that characterised the work of India's great scientists like Dr. C.V. Raman."

Echoing the same sentiment, Prof. Mehrotra told the scientists that "along with the development of the highest technologies in an appropriate form we have to nurture our impoverished rural environment with low cost technologies to eliminate the socio-economic disparities between urban elites and rural masses."

Scientists, in 13 section meetings and several other seminars and panel discussions during the five-day Congress will dwell at length on "the focal theme of the Congress" science and technology in India during the coming decades" and frame guidelines for the future course of Indian science.

Tara Singh's statue

New Delhi (IBS) - A full size statue of Sikh leader Master Tara Singh is to be installed in the round-about between Parliament House and Gurdwara Rakabganj. The proposal has been cleared by the Works and Housing Ministry.

Punjab Development Minister Atma Singh announced here that a memorial to the late Sikh leader will also be put up in Chandigarh and a six-acre plot had been purchased for the purpose.

Male contrac

Bombay - (UNI) - The ideal male contraceptive may be just around the corner, following the isolation of "inhibin" from human seminal plasma and ram tests by the Institute for Research in reproduction here.

Inhibin, a protein that should selectively suppress the follicle stimulating hormone (FSH), has not yet been obtained in a pure form anywhere else in the world, despite efforts going on at several laboratories in India and abroad.

The doctors hope that an interference with FSH -- which is a pituitary hormone, essential for normal sperm production -- should regulate male fertility and provide the contraceptive of the future.

One of the first laboratories in the world to apply immunological techniques to study methods of controlling the reproductive processes, the institute has facilities for tissue culture work which might help unravel the mysteries surrounding the factors that control testicular sperm production.

It has also developed enzyme immunoassays for hormones.

Bangalore to

Bangalore - Murders and suicides take an "alarming" toll of lives every year in Karnataka, and the "disturbing trend" continues unabated with Bangalore recording the highest incidence of suicides in the country.

More than 14,000 murders have been committed in the State between 1959 and 1976. The number of suicides in the State increased from 3,149 in 1970 to 4,278 in 1976.

These facts have been brought out in two separate studies by the Bureau of Economics and Statistics of the Karnataka Government, which in recent years has taken up analysis of social factors besides tabulating the economic indicators for assessing the quality of living.

Among the major cities, the number of suicides was the highest in Bangalore. Out of 1,214 suicides in that year in eight major cities, 440 (36.2 per cent) were committed suicides in Bangalore city. Madras followed next with 207.

A major cause of suicides is

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Ousmane Sembine, (55), of Senegal, Chairman of the Jury, being introduced to the President, Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, at the 7th International Film Festival in New Delhi on January 3.

Elected fellow

Recently Dinkar Mukhedkar has been elected FELLOW of the Engineering Institute of Canada and The Institution of Engineers (India). Dr. Mukhedkar is Professor of Electrical Engineering at Ecole Polytechnique, University of Montreal, since 1968.

DR. MUKHEDKAR

Male contraceptive soon

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Inhibin, a protein that should selectively suppress the follicle stimulating hormone (FSH), has not yet been obtained in a pure form anywhere else in the world, despite efforts going on at several laboratories in India and abroad.

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It has also developed enzyme immunoassays for hormones which are as sensitive and specific as radioimmunoassays (RIA). The institute is making attempts to make those assays as simple as possible so that they can be worked out in any district hospital laboratory.

Assays of hormones involved in reproduction help understand the causes of reproductive disorders, including infertility.

Research at the institute has helped answer a number of questions raised by women using contraceptives, on the side effects of the pill and alternative routes of administration which might be effective, long-acting and devoid of side effects.

The new low-dose combination steroids, on the whole, seem safe for general use for spacing children, though a minority might react adversely to these drugs -- necessitating administration of steroidal hormones under medical supervision.

Various drug delivery systems, as an alternative to oral administration, are also being studied for efficacy, safety and acceptability -- the last being a major factor on which the institution is undertaking a multicentric study.

Bangalore tops in suicides

Bangalore - Murders and suicides take an "alarming" toll of lives every year in Karnataka, and the "disturbing trend" continues unabated with Bangalore recording the highest incidence of suicides in the country.

More than 14,000 murders have been committed in the State between 1959 and 1976. The number of suicides in the State increased from 3,149 in 1970 to 4,278 in 1976.

These facts have been brought out in two separate studies by the Bureau of Economics and Statistics of the Karnataka Government, which in recent years has taken up analysis of social factors besides tabulating the economic indicators for assessing the quality of living.

Among the major cities, the number of suicides was the highest in Bangalore. Out of 1,214 suicides in that year in eight major cities, 440 (36.2 per cent) were committed suicides in Bangalore city, Madras followed next with 307.

A major cause of suicides is dreadful diseases, and this indicated that adequate facilities for their treatment were not available. Poverty was another reason. Disputes over property were also a major factor in the suicide cases in the State.

Sexual causes appear to be responsible for a considerable proportion of murders, as out of 699 cases reported during 1976, 137 (20 per cent) related to sexual causes. Property disputes accounted for 95 (13.6 per cent).

Personal vendetta comes third with 80 cases (11 per cent). The other motives include political rivalry, party feelings, monetary disputes and family quarrels.

Among the persons involved and arrested for committing murders, about 95 per cent are males.

The study of suicides shows that manual labourers accounted for about 40 per cent of the total number of cases, followed by housewives who constituted 36 per cent.

The number of unemployed persons committing suicides was also equally high.

Indians shoot film in U.S.

Reports have been featured in Indian newspapers from Carrabassett Valley (Maine) that a movie camera from India recently arrived at the Sugarloaf ski resort in Western Maine to put the finishing touches on a film intended to capture the true essence of American life.

The film, will "show the good side of America," says Mathew George, one of seven Indian brothers who own Glo-Movie Productions of India, which is making the movie.

Based on a true story, the film focuses on three members of a family who emigrate from India to the US to seek their fortune.

The two sisters find work as nurses in a New York hospital, and ultimately one marries an American doctor. But their brother succumbs to the lure of New Jersey gambling joints run by the underworld thugs whose friendship will cost him his life.

Since the crew and cast returned to the US in November, the complex plot-packed with car and boat chase scenes, plenty of romance and happy endings - has taken them to casinos in Atlantic City, New Jersey, a Hindu temple in Pittsburgh, Toronto, New York and Niagara Falls.

Most of the film was shot in 1977 summer, but the crew and actors came back for some winter scenes. They first tried to shoot the ski scenes at another Maine resort after Thanksgiving, but the air was too cold for the Indian actors, used to temperatures that seldom drop below 70 degrees.

The film feature two American actors, including one who had a minor role in "The Godfather."

The film will have two titles. In Mathew's home State of Kerala it will be called, "Ezhu Kadalinakkara", or in English "Beyond the Seven Seas." In Indian mythology, travellers who journey to foreign lands are believed to cross seven seas.

In Tamil, the film will be titled "Ore Vanam Ore Bhoomi," or "the Very Same Sky, the Very Same Earth", he said.

The film is likely to be released in January and its English version will be offered to American movie theatres and television networks.

Nirvan Bhavan: A cultural centre

There has been long felt need in the East Indian community that there should be a common cultural centre. At the present time, the many functions and festivals that are held, the community has to search for renting local schools, churches, community halls, etc. There is a great drain of community resources as rent. The whole situation is not dignified enough, given the size and resources of the community.

Nirvan Bhavan is an organization which was set up a year ago to meet the challenge of creating a common cultural centre. The final name of the centre is not yet chosen and you are welcome to send your suggestions to the address given below.

Whatever the final name of the centre, and we can be sure that it would be some symbolic and beautiful name, the organization is committed to mobilize human and financial resources to create, to quote from its brochure, "a centre which will serve as a common meeting ground that will acquaint other Canadians with our rich heritage and also that will meet the challenge of stimulating the interest of our younger generation in diverse aspects of Indian culture."

The organization has done considerable amount of preparatory homework to thrash out many knotty problems relating to the task of creating an ambitious centre. The work has been quiet and without publicity so far. To mention only a few achievements of the organization: there are already pledges made of about $20,000 by its members. There has been dialogue with 20-25 Indian organizations and such organizations as Federation of Indo-Canadian Association, AWIC, IIAS, Cultural Centre of India - have already expressed support for creating such a centre. The dialogue with Indian associations is continuing and the aim is to generate a community movement since such a task requires mounting a vast common effort. A good deal of work during the past year has been done by the organizations into hammering out technical and other details about the proposed centre. Such difficult questions as: "What type of building structure do we need?", "What will a centre cost?", "How about finances?", "Where to locate the centre", etc. are answered in the brochure which the organization has produced this summer and is available to anyone interested. Write to:

Nirvan Bhavan Indo-Canadian Cultural Centre
76 Berkeley Street
Toronto, Ontario M5A 2W7

The organization is a registered body with tax-exempt status for donations. Your donations and time is needed for your community's centre.

Indo-Canadian conference in Delhi

New Delhi - "Canadian and Indian Perspectives on Regional Development" was the subject of a conference being held in New Delhi on January 4 and 5, at which four Canadian and four Indian academics spoke.

The conference was jointly sponsored by the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute and the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library based in New Delhi.

In Canada, twelve universities and the National Library of Canada are co-operating in the advancement of Indian studies through the allocation of junior and senior fellowships and language training grants, the acquisition of Indian publications for Canadian university libraries, and the operation of special educational projects for under-graduates and school teachers.

Some of the topics scheduled to come up are the following:

Professor D. Elkins, Department of Political Science, University of British Columbia:
"Regional and National Identities in Canada: Conflict and Complementarity".

Dr. Neil Swan, Economic Council of Canada:
"The Persistanceof High Unemployment in Eastern Canada".

Professor J.M.S. Careless, Department of History, University of Toronto.
"The Role of Major Cities in the Historical Development of Regionalism in Canada, 1760-1914".

KITCHEN KORNER

By Mrs. Pranati SenGupta

A cooking column does not mean just recipes; it should enhance our daily menu, work on good nutrition and deal with matters of health that are important to our eating habits. So this week I am continuing with good food ideas and nutrition. The typical Canadian is pictured as a meat eater who enjoys thick steaks, juicy hamburgers and finger lickin' good chicken. For him a bowl of lentil soup and brown chapati is almost unthinkable. But many Canadians are turning away from their meat and potato traditions to a life of vegetarianism. Chapati made with whole wheat flour is a good source of protein, vitamins and minerals, even though we tend to ignore this unrefined whole wheat flour which is readily available and inexpensive too. The refined white flour, mostly starch of wheat kernels, lacks wheat germ and bran. Nothing equals the taste of freshly baked chapati for breakfast, lunch or dinner. It isn't always convenient to bake bread when you need it. I found the way to solve this unfortunate situation. By adding yeast to the dough you can keep your chapati soft and tender for a long period of time. It will stay fresh for a week if you store them wrapped in foil or plastic in your refrigerator. To freeze baked chapatties, first cook, then place a piece of waxed paper in between each one, put in freezer bags or aluminum foil, then place them in the freezer. These will store for up to 2 months at 0 degree F. To thaw, leave them unopened at room temperature for about 2 hours. Serve them at room temperature, or if you prefer hot, place chapatties on ungreased cookie sheets, brush with melted butter or margarine, put under the broiler just for a few seconds, turn and brush a little more butter, and warm until the bread is hot.

CHAPATI

1½ tsp. dry yeast
2¼ cups warm water between 100 to 115 degrees F.
4 cups whole wheat flour and 1 cup white flour (or 5 cups whole wheat flour)
1½ tsp. salt and ½ tsp. sugar
3 tbsp. oil.

In a very large mixing bowl, dissolve yeast and sugar in ¼ cup of the warm water and leave to proof, which means you should see the yeast actually grow and expand in the warm water culture. When the yeast comes alive, add the rest of the warm water, salt and oil, stir and add to the flour while stirring. (I'll warn you, from here on it is hard work.) I mix the flours into the water with a dinner fork and when it gets really tough, I toss aside the fork and use my fingers. When the dough starts to come away from the sides of the bowl, take it out and knead about 15 minutes, until the dough is satiny, springy ball that just needs turning into a large, warm bowl that has been well oiled so that the dough can be turned on all sides in that bowl. An oil coating all over will prevent the surface from shrinking. Cover the bowl with a damp tea towel and leave about 1½ to 2 hours depending on your room temperature to double its size. Punch it down with your fist, knead it for another 2 minutes, form into 1½ inch round balls and flatten with the palm of the hand. Dust with a little flour and roll out to a 1/16 inch round.

Heat an iron griddle and turn the chapati on to it. Wait until the first bubbles rise in the bread. Turn, using a spatula, and cook another few seconds. Put the bread on a wire rack with a handle (like camp toaster) and hold over a high heat of the stove. The bread will puff up and is then ready to eat. To serve, heat a deep dish, line with paper towels and stack the bread. Keep covered, and take to the table.

A friend of Indian immigrants

New Delhi (IBS) - The first visit to India of Mrs. Sandra Sen, an American was as a bride. She was a trifle nervous at the prospect of having to live in a Hindus joint family. And then there were all those stories she had heard back home about India's poverty and misery. She says: "Though I didn't really believe everything, I was certainly somewhat nervous. But when I landed in Calcutta I was pleasantly surprised. I was fascinated by the place and it's people, and I discovered how distorted was our image of India."

That was 12 years ago, and since then she has been trying to "explain" India to her countrymen, and to get a better deal for Indian immigrants in the USA. She was instrumental in setting up the Association of Indians in America which has done a lot to narrow the communication gap between Indian immigrants and native Americans. Recently she was appointed a member of the US Federal Advisory Committee on Immigration and Naturalisation with responsibility to look after the interests of Asian immigrants. She is also working on a project called the "Ethnic Heritage Studies Project", which is intended to improve the image of Indians. There are nearly 250,000 Indians in the USA. And the rate of immigration has risen from 100 a year in 1965, when her husband Tapas Sen, moved to the USA to 20,000 in 1978. But they are not recognized as an ethnic group which would entitle them to certain privileges, Mrs. Sen says: "Our greatest achievement is that we have been able to persuade the Government to hold a census of Indian immigrants to determine their exact number so that they are granted the status of an ethnic group."

Race relations in the USA, according to her, are happy, but there is no room for complacency. Fresh immigrants are finding it increasingly difficult to find jobs "As the number of Asians on New York streets grows one can sense a certain unease among the natives, and there have been incidents of desecration of temples and so on.

"Your very accent makes you disqualified for certain jobs. And if steps are not taken to integrate them into the local mainstream things can worsen. What our Association is trying to do is to bring about this integration. And we have succeeded to some extent. For example for the first time the U.S. President invited 11 Indian couples to a party. This shows that he has recognized their separate identity. What is more important, the Government has agreed to hold a census of Indians in 1980."

The Association and the Advisory Committee on Immigration have been able to influence the Government's immigration policy to some extent, she says. "We are trying to persuade the Government to understand the problems of the immigrants."

NEWS IN BRIEF

INDO-CANADIAN SEMINAR

New Delhi, Jan. 14 (UNI) - Union Education Minister P.C. Chunder said that India and Canada had much in common and could share their experience to mutual advantage.

The two countries had been working together and could further cooperate in several fields, particularly in strengthening the forces of peace in the world, he added.

Dr. Chunder was inaugurating a two-day seminar on "Gandhian and Indian perspectives on regional development" jointly organised by the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute and Nehru memorial museum and library.

Dr. Chunder appreciated the work done by the institute in promoting mutual understanding and friendship and said it had virtually functioned as "a solid bridge between the two countries.

Earlier, in his introductory remarks, Prof. D.W. Carmel, resident director of the institute, said this academic seminar marked the tenth anniversary of the institute.

MASTER PLAN TO DEVELOP BUDDHIST PILGRIM CENTRES

New Delhi (IBS) - A master plan is being drawn up at places of interest to Buddhist Pilgrims covering Rajgir, Nalanda and Bodhgaya in Bihar, Minister for Tourism Purshottam Kaushik informed in the Lok Sabha.

He said it was proposed to provide tourist facilities at Rajgir and Nalanda on the basis of the master plan during the current five year (1978-83) in consultation with the State Government, depending on the resources available.

INDIAN WOMEN'S SMARTEST' IN WORLD

New Delhi, Jan. 13 (UNI) Madam Irene De Lipkowski, President of the International Alliance for Women finds Indian women "the smartest in the world."

In an interview with UNI, Madam Lipkowski said Indian women "have a deep sense of social responsibility." They are authoritative in their approach, and sincerely wish to help the country grow."

50 FOREIGN FILMS FOR FILM FESTIVAL

New Delhi (UNI) - Fifty foreign films will be shown in the market section of the Seventh International Film Festival of India.

This is in addition to 100 commercial and 50 film division films expected to be entered from within the country.

The market section -- which will be housed in the convention hall of Ashoka Hotel -- will have 30 stalls, most of which have already been allotted to Indian Film Industry and foreign organisations like the Motion Pictures Association of America (MPAA), the State Agency of Iraq, Soveo export and Filmpolski of Poland.

In addition to these, delegates from many foreign countries will attend the market section.

ALL HELP PROMISED TO VIET NAM

New Delhi, Jan 14 (UNI) - India today gave firm assurance to Vietnam that it would increase its economic and technical assistance "within our resources" and also join in multilateral efforts to extend all help to rebuild its war-ravaged economy.

This was conveyed by External Affairs Minister A.B. Vajpayee to Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh with whom he had two rounds of talks spread over three hours.

During the discussions Mr. Trinh gave Mr. Vajpayee his assessment of the situation in south-east Asia and how his Government viewed the increasing Chinese involvment in the Vietnam-Cambodia conflict.

NON-RENEWAL OF BAR LICENCE HELD VALID

New Delhi (IBS) - A Division Bench of the Delhi High Court dismissed the writ petition filed by the Gidney Club, belonging to the Delhi Branch of the All-India Anglo-Indian Association, challenging the letter of the Delhi Administration of March 15, 1978, stopping the retail sale of liquor in all clubs from April 1.

The Bench consisting of Chief Justice V.S. Deshpande and Justice N.N. Goswamy rejected the petitioner's contention that for the purpose of non-renewal of their licence, the Government should not go by its prohibition policy and that it had a fundamental right to trade in intoxicants.

"UPDATING" HINDUISM

New Delhi (IBS) - A comprehensive 12-year-plan for the revival and updating of Hinduism, with special emphasis on the solution of the Harijan problem and ending of communal disharmony will be drawn up by the three-day World Hindi Conference, beginning on January 25 in Allahabad.

Announcing this, Swami Chinmayanda told newsmen January 1, that Prime Minister Morarji Desai had agreed to inaugurate the conference which is being organised by the Vishva (World) Hindu Parishad (Bharat).

KRIPALANI ASKS CHARAN NOT TO QUIT

New Delhi, Jan. 15 (UNI) Acharya Kriplani has advised Charan Singh not to desert the Janata Party as it would only mean revival of Mrs. Gandhi.

The two leaders met for about an hour during which the former Home Minister is believed to have explained the discriminatory treatment being meted out to him and the erstwhile Bharatiya Lok Dal (BLd). Under the present circumstances, he did not know how he could continue long in the Janata Party.

Mr. Charan Singh's grievances related not only to the Government but also to the organisation and he explained how systematic efforts were being made to squeeze him out of the Party. He had been suffering in silence but he did not know how long he could do that.

SWAMI KAILASHANANDA DEAD

Calcutta (IBS) - Swami Kailashananda (86), vice president of the Ramakrishna Math and Mission, died here Saturday, Dec. 17. He was suffering from liver cancer for the past two years.

The Swami yearned for the salvation of the soul but it was not his individual redemption that he sought; to him service to humanity was the way to God. A brilliant student of history who had shown spiritual inclination even as a boy, he got interested in the Vedanta philosophy as he attained youth. His life took a turn as he came in contact with Swami Premananda in Dacca.

Born Sailesh Chandra Banerjee at the famous Vajrajogini village of Bikrampur in Dacca district (now in Bangladesh) he had his early education at Dacca and took his M.A. degree from Calcutta University.

INDIA READY FOR INDO-US PANEL OF NUCLEAR SCIENTISTS

New Delhi, Jan. 13 (UNI) - India has agreed to having a joint committee of Indian and U.S. nuclear scientists to ensure that the safeguards proposed by Washington did not affect nuclear research and development of not only India but other developing countries as well.

According to informed sources, there was, therefore, no question of the Government walking into any "U.S. Trap." The committee, the personnel of which are yet to be agreed upon, will function independently of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

INDIA'S FIRST FINANCIAL NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi (IBS) - One of India's two major national news agencies, United News of India on January 1, 1979 launched a new information service - the UNI Financial News Service (UNIFIN).

The first of its kind in India, UNIFIN offers a comprehensive financial news package, including commodity rates from all main markets in India and over 15 foreign centres.

HARIDAS AWARD FOR DAGGAR

New Delhi (IBS) - Eminent "dhrupad" exponent Ustad Aminuddin Daggar has been given Haridas award and playwright and cultural organiser Dr. N.P. Sheshadri the Tansen award by the Dhrupad Society.

Languages

By A

(Continued from last issue)

ASSAMESE, the state langua of Assam, has developed throu centuries of fusion with oth languages. Though Indo-Ary in origin, Assamese has be greatly influenced by speeches the Austric and Sino-Tibet family. About 60 percent of t population of Assam speak Assamese. The rest speak oth languages like Bengali, Kha Bodo and Garo which are mos the languages of neighbouri states. Assamese developed as literary language from the 13 century. It has a fairly go literature. According to Sun Kumar Chatterji, Early Assames and Early Bengali appear to ha been just one language wi minor dialectical variations.

BENGALI, the state language West Bengal has a highly deve oped literature, one of the mo advanced in the world. emerged as a separate langua around A.D. 1000. Bengali ha quite a copious literature, bot medieval and modern, and it through its vigorous moder literature that the language better known. Bengali is al spoken by about 75 millio Bangladeshis.

GUJARATI, a member of th Indo-Aryan family is the offici language of the State of Gujarat. It was closely allied to Rajasthan till about 1500 A.D., whe Rajasthani passed into the orbit Hindi. Gujarati has since deve oped on its own and is now one the most developed languages.

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Among the various dialects of Hindi, the dialect chosen as official Hindi, is the standard Khari Boli, written in Devanagari script. This form was originally spoken in Delhi and some western U.P. districts. From the literary point of view, the term Hindi covers not only the Khari Boli form, but also a number of dialects like Brijbhasa, Kanauji Hindustani, Bundeli, Awadhi Chattisgarhi, early Marwari o Rajasthan and the Maithili and Bhojpuri speeches of Bihar. Al of these together possess a vas literary output from 1300 A.D onwards.

Hindi, in the standard Khari Boli form, is a late-comer on the Indian linguistic scene. It started developing in the second half of the 19th century. Today being the official language of six states (Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh Bihar, Rajasthan, Himachal Pra desh and Haryana) and the Indian Union, Hindi is receiving high patronage. This patronage and support has encouraged the dev elopment of Hindi as a great modern literary language. In terms of the numbers of people speaking or using it, Hindi is of course the third great language of the world after Chinese and English.

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UR DAGGAR

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Languages of India 2

By A.F. Ashtamudi

(Continued from last issue)

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BENGALI, the state language of West Bengal has a highly developed literature, one of the most advanced in the world. It emerged as a separate language around A.D. 1000. Bengali has quite a copious literature, both medieval and modern, and it is through its vigorous modern literature that the language is better known. Bengali is also spoken by about 75 million Bangladeshis.

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KANNADA, the official language of the State of Karnataka, belongs to the Dravidian family. Kannada as an independent language dates from the 9th century. For over a thousand years we have continuous specimens of a rich Kannada literature with a highly cultivated Sanskritic influence.

KASHMIRI, a language of the Indo-Aryan group is one of the 15 national languages recognized by the constitution, though it is not the official State language of Kashmir. It is an interesting and important language in many ways although the number of people speaking it is not very large. Beginning about 1200 A.D. it became the vehicle of a fine literature incorporating both Brahmanical and Islamic traditions. It has a large number of epic poems both of Sanskrit and Persian inspiration. It's modern literature written in the Perso-Arabic script is quite respectable.

MARATHI, belonging to the Indo-Aryan stock, is the official language of Maharashtra. Though it separated from the main stock at a very early date, it's literary career began only in the 12th century. It has two allied speeches; Konkani spoken in and around Goa, and Hathi current in the Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh. Marathi has a fully developed literature.

MALAYALAM, a branch of the Dravidian family, is the official language of Kerala. Malayalam struck out on its own by the 10th century from its parent Tamil. Having outgrown the bounds of Old Tamil, Malayalam borrowed heavily from classical Sanskrit with the result that it is today the most Sanskritized of all Dravidian languages. Early Malayalam developed around 1350 A.D. It's literature since then has been quite vigorous.

ORIYA, a branch of the Indo-Aryan family is the official language of the State of Orissa, where the Oriya speaking population comprise some 85 percent of the total. Bengali, Oriya and Assamese are sister languages having a common ancestry in Eastern Magadhi of 1500 years ago. Literary Oriya began in the 14th century. During the 16th and 17th centuries Oriya fell under the spell of Sanskrit. It has quite an extensive literature.

PUNJABI belongs to the Indo-Aryan family and is the official language of the State of Punjab. It is written mainly in the Gurmukhi script, but Moslems show a preference for the Persian script and the Hindus for the Nagari script. The question of script has been one of the major factors that have led to the division of old Punjab into [Sikh] Punjab and [Hindu] Haryana. Punjabi literature had its beginnings in the 17th century, though it did not develop until the 19th century.

SANSKRIT, one of the national languages, is also one of the oldest languages of the world. Vedic Sanskrit began around 2000 B.C.

The contribution of Sanskrit to Indian culture and literature are immeasurably vast. Sanskrit ceased to be a spoken language many centuries ago. Over the years, much of Sanskrit literature has been lost or destroyed. It relied a great deal on Oral traditions. As a language for the scholar and of religion, Sanskrit retains its preeminence. It's profound contributions in science and arts have set the pattern for all other developing languages of India. In short, Sanskrit still remains the vehicle of the civilization and way of life which is typically Indian.

SINDHI, one of the smallest of national languages in India, is a branch of the Indo-Aryan family. It uses the Perso-Arabic script in Pakistan, while speakers in India [Kutch] use the Devanagari script.

TAMIL, the oldest and purest of the Dravidian languages is the State language of Tamil Nadu. It has preserved an independent tradition for over 2500 years. In originality, Tamil literature stands in a class by itself. It represents certain new literary types which are not found in Sanskrit and other Aryan languages. It is a language spoken with great pride and bears a truly great tradition. Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam have slowly evolved from Old Tamil.

Hotline for minorities

Toronto - Ontario now has a telephone hot-line for those members of minority groups who are victims of racially motivated crimes.

Attorney-General Roy McMurtry, said the service is intended to give legal advice in cases where police have not laid charges. Those calling the special number will be advised on the proper course of action by lawyers in the attorney-general's office ranging from calling the police to arranging an appointment with a justice of the peace if police have not laid charges. The hot-line number is 416-366-3060.

Films and foreign exchange

New Delhi - The Indian film industry's foreign exchange earnings shot up to Rs. 11 million (314 million) in 1977-78 as against Rs. 73 million (39 million) in the previous year.

This is claimed to be the result of the efforts of the Indian Motion Pictures Export Corporation (IMPEC) to sell song-and-dance feature films in non-traditional markets like Mexico, Venezuela and Argentina.

Hindi films are also doing remarkably well in African countries - Nigeria, Congo, Zambia, Kenya and Tanzania and in Arab countries like Egypt, Iraq, Syria and the Gulf States.

Charan stil Janata member

New Delhi, Jan 14 (UNI) - Former Home Minister Charan Singh has reaffirmed his allegiance and those of his supporters to the 19-month old Janata Party thus setting at rest doubts about the continuance of his BLD in it.

In a statement issued after attending a meeting of the Party's National Executive he boycotted yesterday, the former Home Minister said: "My comrades and I have reared it (The Janata Party) as perhaps the most suitable, if not the only instrument for the service of the country. So, we will be the last persons to do anything to hurt it."

He said the current crisis in Janata Party had led to "understandable speculation" about his attitude and that of his friends towards the Party.

Family control weakens

New Delhi, (UNI) - The family's control over its members is weakening in India but the school is not providing an alternative control device, a sociologist says.

P. K. B. NAYAR

According to Dr. P.K.B. Nayar, head of the Department of Sociology, University of Kerala, there is lack of coordination and integration between the functions of the family and the school system. "The schools have not been able to function as effective substitute for the home in socialisation of children. As a result, a balanced concept of ones role in society, including obligations to the family members and to society on the whole, is lacking among individuals".

In a paper presented to the Tenth International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences, concluded here recently, Dr. Nayar says it is a matter of profound concern that the paternalistic family is not able to find a paternalistic school system.

"It is necessary to evolve a proper policy so that change in the family does not result in loosening of the control of the individual by the society and the school provides a perfect substitute for socialisation of children."

Dr. Nayar says the relationship between the head of the family and other members has changed from "one of awe and fear to one of respect". The father/uncle is now increasingly under pressure to concede to other members "a part of his power".

The other members are beginning to feel they should be consulted on matters affecting them.

"The behaviour of children towards elders is less conventional than before. Appellations which carried respect towards elders are now less frequently used by the younger generation", Dr. Nayar says.

MITSUBISHI AWARD TO ROMESH THAPAR

New Delhi (IBS) Jan. 12 - Chairman of the Press Foundation of Asia Kim Sang Mung presented the Mitsubishi award to Romesh Thapar, Editor of "Seminar," for the best magazine editor upholding press freedom during the Emergency.

The award, in the form of a plaque, entitles the recipient to travel all over Asia.

Thulasi

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CLASSIFIEDS

MATRIMONIALS

Nice girl required for Hindu boy, accountant, 27, 5'-6". The girl should be presently residing in Canada or U.S.A. Please write M-1496, The Canadian India Times.

Suitable match for handsome KHATRI boy, 29, 5'-10", well settled in Toronto. For details please write M-1497, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted a suitable match for Vaishya Agrawal boy, 24, Canadian citizen, graduate, 5'-9", 140 lbs, well settled in his own flourishing business. Family highly placed in Canada. Please correspond with full particulars and photograph M-1498, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted suitable match for a Punjabi Khatri girl, 22, 5'-3", B.Sc. Biology. Reply with recent picture M-1499, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted suitable match, preferably a recent graduate in Mechanical Electrical Engg. for a beautiful Punjabi Hindu girl, 19, Canadian citizen, settled in Toronto. Send full details with Photo to M-1500, The Canadian India Times.

Correspondence invited from Indian Christian boy 25-30 with good qualification and job for attractive East Indian Christian girl, 22, 5'-4". Canadian Citizen with Secretarial training working for established firm. Write with details and enclose recent photo to M-1501, The Canadian India Times.

Goodlooking and well-established match for Professional Punjabi Hindu divorced girl, 31, 5'-4" affectionate and talented. Returnable photograph appreciated. M-1502, The Canadian India Times.

Matrimonial correspondence invited from preferably professional unattached ladies for a handsome sikh widower, mid forties, professional, well settled in Toronto area. Colour, caste, creed no bar. Write in strict confidence M-1503, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted a suitable match for a Naidu bachelor, 33, 5'-10", from a respectable family and holding a degree in Production Engineering from Germany. Canadian or U.S.A. citizen or immigrant preferred. Particulars and photo to M-1504, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted educated handsome Khatri match for a beautiful Punjabi girl, 24, B.A., 5'-3", immigrant on salaried employment. Write Box 4545 Station D, Hamilton, Ontario L8V 4S7.

Correspondence invited from a well-settled professional Gujarati (preferably Jain) for 27 years, 5'-3", medico sister. Write to M-1479, The Canadian India Times or call (416) -683-1112.

Matrimonial correspondence invited for pretty North Indian Hindu girl, 30. Lived in Bombay mostly. Working as teacher. Brothers well settled in Canada. Please reply Burlington Ontario Tel. (416) - 634-1613.

Correspondence invited from immigrant/citizen boys for my sister, 25, Punjabi Bhramin, M.A., tall and good looking. Early marriage. Write with full details and photograph M-1473, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted established Bengalee gentleman for Brahmin girl, 23. Details: Batabyal, 87 Dalehurst Drive, Ottawa.

Wanted suitable match for beautiful Brahmin girl, 18, 5'-2", B.A., from Punjab. Address correspondence to J. Bhanot, 42 Strath Lane, Dartmouth, N.S. B2X 1Z3.

Suitable match for my two sisters (Kayastha) convent educated, M.A., modest, interested in music, interior decoration and indoor games, currently in India. M-1506, The Canadian India Times.

Matrimonial correspondence invited only from Lohana Gujarati boys for fair complexion, well-educated Lohana Gujarati girl, 21, 5'-2", holding good post in Government. Full details with recent photograph. M-1505, The Canadian India Times.

Charming professional Punjabi lady, 34, 5'-4" wants to marry unattached professional Indian 34-40. M-1478 or phone (416)-494-2796 - The Canadian India Times.

Match for Agrawal Jain doctor, 27, citizen, visiting London, India this summer. Excellent family. No bars. Early marriage. Please enclose immediately returnable photograph M-1486, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted suitable match for Canadian Jat Sikh gentleman, 30, 6'-4" tall, M.A. M.Ed, well settled in Canada. Girl is the main consideration. Girl should be at least 5'-6". Early marriage. Caste no bar. Write in details with photograph to G.S. Sidhu, 1321 Bernard Road, Windsor, Ontario. N8Y 4K2.

Cassette tapes

Prerecorded stereo cassette tapes of music in different Indian languages and cuisine books. Write for free catalogue. Dealer inquiries welcome. CSV Media Inc. Box 34, Punnichy, Sask., SOA 3CO.

Birth

Rina & Subhasis Samanta are happy to announce the birth of their daughter Tania (Mimi) in Toronto.

RAMESH KRISHNAN RETAINS SINGLES TITLE

New Delhi [IBS] - Top-seeded Ramesh Krishnan retained his men's singles title with an effortless 6-1, 6-0 win against his cousin Shanker Krishanan in the national lawn tennis championships here.

Second seeded Amrita Ahluwalia [Tamil Nadu] won the women's singles title, brushing aside the challenge of Anu Peshawaria [Delhi] 6-4, 6-0. A day earlier Anu had toppled the reigning champion Nirupama Mankad who, however, had the consolation of winning the doubles title in partnership with Kiran Bedi, defeating Susan Jones and Kotevoun Irani 6-1, 6-0.

GEOPHYSICAL UNION AWARD FOR L.N. KAILASAM

Hyderabad (IBS) - The Indian Geophysical Union's 1978 decennial award has been given to L.N. Kailasam, chief geophysicist, Geological Survey of India, for his outstanding contributions in the field of exploration geophysics.

Palkhivala for return of scientists

Bombay (IBS) - Nani Palkhivala, India's Ambassador to the USA said here that brilliant Indian scientists, working abroad should be invited to India to give the benefit of their talents and genius to the country.

Addressing a public meeting organized by the Indian Council of World Affairs, Palkhivala lamented that the country in its obsessive preoccupation with politics had neglected its men of genius who were transforming and enriching human life in the USA.

He said outstanding Indian scientists working in the USA had expressed to him their willingness to come to work in India even for a fraction of their large emoluments, provided they were allowed to work without political interference and bureaucratic control.

"We have been remiss in not showing due appreciation and recognition of our great men who reside abroad," the Ambassador remarked.

Palkhivala felt that world renowned scientists and men of achievement of Indian origin should be invited to the country as State guests and publicly honoured.

Professor Hargobind Khurana, Professor Sudarshan, Professor Chandrashekhar and Mr. Zubian Mehta were the names Palkhivala gave.

Of these, Professor Sudershan was nominated even for the Nobel Prize, he pointed out.

He said many Indian scientists were working in the USA on fusion, probably the most important source of energy in the next century. These scientists had submitted a memorandum to the Government of India regarding their willingness to come to India and work. Palkhivala felt that the country should give a positive response to these eminent scientists.

Palkhivala's impression was that the importance of India in world affairs was now more widely recognized than ever before. Many in the free world felt, that survival of Indian democracy was the most important world phenomenon since World War II.

Opinion was growing in the USA as well as elsewhere that India had emerged as a significant economic and military power as the subcontinent. India had now been assigned by the world to perform the great role of a standard bearer of freedom and democracy, Palkhivala remarked.

KAIRON MURDER ACCUSED TO DIE

Rohtak - The District and Sessions judge, A.N. Agarwal, sentenced to death Daya Singh, the fifth and last accused in the Kairon murder case.

Three of the accused, Sucha Singh, Baldev Singh and Nahar Singh alias Fauji have already been sentenced to undergo life imprisonment.

Partap Singh Kairon, ex-Chief Minister of Punjab, and his three companions were murdered in broad daylight on February 6, 1965 on Grand Trunk Road near village Rasoi, in Rohtak district. Daya Singh, who was absconding while his co-accused were arrested and tried was arrested in 1972 on secret information received by Ashwini Kumar, the then Inspector General Police, Punjab and now Director General, Border Security Force.

FILM IN CANADA

Recently, it came to the notice of a leading exporter that his film was being exhibited in certain theatres in Canada even though the same had not officially been released.

Efforts to pin down the culprits failed as the exhibitors and the threatre-owners worked hand in glove.

The bid to enlist the support of the Indian Trade Commission and the Indian Embassy, too, failed

SATHE PRESENTS CREDENTIALS IN PEKING

New Delhi [IBS] - India's new ambassador R.D. Sathe presented his credentials in Peking to the Vice-Chairman of the Chinese National People's Congress.

In a brief address, Sathe affirmed the desire of the Government and people of India for good relations with China.

Before going to Peking, Sathe was India's Ambassador in Paris.

IMPORT-EXPORT BANK UNDER CONSIDERATION

New Delhi (IBS) - Commerce Minister Mohan Dharia told the Lok Sabha that the Government was considering the setting up of an import-export bank to activate India's foreign trade.

The Commerce Ministry, he said, had already raised this issue with the Finance Ministry.

DESAI'S INVITATION TO POPE

New Delhi [IBS] - Prime Minister Morarji Desai has invited Pope John Paul II to visit India. The invitation was handed over to the Pope who recently granted a private audience to Industry Minister George Fernandez.

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